

## Exiles appeal for water in Lebanon

MARJ AL ZOHOOR, Lebanon (R) — Nearly 400 Palestinians expelled by Israel made an urgent appeal Monday to aid agencies to supply them drinking water in a South Lebanon tent camp. On their 145th day trapped between Lebanese and Israeli lines, the 396 Palestinians complained that what water was left in area was dirty and undrinkable. "We appeal to humanitarian organisations and international agencies to supply us immediately with drinking water," spokesman Abdul Aziz Al Ramis told reporters at the camp. "Water was supplied to us from a nearby stream but we were surprised to find out that it was... undrinkable and may harm the deportees health," Dr. Rantisi said. Foreign relief officials said they were studying the men's appeal for help. Iranian Revolutionary Guards and Lebanon's pro-Iranian Hizbollah party extended a water pipe to the camp Sunday, security sources said. But Dr. Rantisi said the water was undrinkable and might harm their health. Two streams that supplied the exiles with drinking water during the winter ran dry after mountain snows melted. The Hasbani River runs along a deep valley about 700 metres east of the camp but the men say it is not suitable for drinking and the ravine is too steep for them to haul up water.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الواسع

Volume 17 Number 5304

AMMAN TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1993 THU EL QU'DER 19, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Iran to hold anti-U.S. rally during Haj

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's top Haj official flew to Saudi Arabia Monday, saying Iranian pilgrims were determined to hold an anti-U.S. rally in Mecca, Tehran Radio reported. Mohammad Mohammadi Reyschahri, Haj envoy of supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, told the radio before flying to Saudi Arabia that he hoped the pilgrimage to Mecca at the end of June would be held in the "glorious" manner of the past two years. Four hundred people, mostly Iranian pilgrims, were killed in clashes with Saudi security forces during an Iranian rally in Mecca in 1987. But the event has become a peaceful gathering since 1991, when Iranians returned to Haj after a three-year boycott prompted by the bloodshed. The change reflects the shift of attitude in Tehran, which now seeks good relations with its Gulf Arab neighbours after hostilities peaked during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. Iran's late revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini declared that Haj should have a strong political aspect and Muslims should use the gathering to "disavow infidels." — headed by the United States and Israel. "I hope that pilgrims to the house of God will, as in the past two years, show their perseverance in following the imam (Khomeini) and loyalty to the leader (Khamenei) ... by their all-out participation in the disavowal of infidels ceremony," Mr. Reyschahri said.

## Kuwait to indict would-be assailants

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Seventeen men will be indicted in the next few days on charges of plotting to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush and planning other attacks in Kuwait, prosecutor Mohammad Banai said Monday. The state security court will be asked to formally charge the 17, including one still at large, with an attempt to kill Mr. Bush during his private visit here on April 14-16. Mr. Banai told the official KUNA news agency. It will also be asked to charge them with having had "contacts with Iraqi authorities in a bid to harm Kuwaiti security and weapons," he said (see related story on page 2).

## Mandela in Bonn

BONN (AP) — Nelson Mandela, who sought to discourage investment in South Africa during a visit three years ago, said Monday he wanted German companies to help black South Africans emerge from white minority rule. Mr. Mandela also asked Chancellor Helmut Kohl for financial help for his African National Congress (ANC), which is negotiating with the government to schedule the first South African elections with black participation. The ANC needs money for its electoral campaign and for educational programmes for black South Africans, who have never before voted, Mr. Mandela said. He would not say how much he sought in his meeting with Mr. Kohl, but said: "I don't expect to return empty-handed to Johannesburg."

## Mubarak in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived here Monday on the second leg of a tour of Gulf monarchies. Mr. Mubarak, accompanied by Foreign Minister Amr Musa, arrived from Oman where his talks with Sultan 'Abdoo focused on the rise of religious extremism in Muslim countries and ways of resolving inter-Arab divisions stemming from Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Mr. Mubarak is due in Bahrain on Tuesday, followed by Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. An Egyptian spokesman said the president's tour was aimed at discussing ways of countering what he sees as a growing threat from Iran.

## 200 feared killed in Ecuador landslide

QUITO (AP) — Tonnes of soil and rocks buried a poor mining community in southern Ecuador, and authorities said Monday that more than 200 people were presumed dead. Governor Vinicio Suarez of Loja province told the Associated Press by telephone that "approximately 80 homes, in which we calculate that between 200 and 250 people lived" were buried. "We don't have exact figures on deaths or missing," he said. Mr. Suarez said that the landslide occurred Sunday afternoon during heavy rains.

# Human rights issues threaten peace talks

## Palestinians reduce number of delegates

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Human rights issues threatened Monday to cut short the ninth round of Arab-Israeli peace talks, now in its third and last week here.

To protest the lack of progress of human rights, chief Palestinian negotiator Faisal Hussein decided not to return to Washington following consultations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Tunis.

An official close to the PLO delegation told AFP in Washington that Mr. Hussein "will only return to the negotiating table if there is progress" in the talks, which were to resume Monday after a three-day break for the weekend.

According to the official, the other Palestinian delegates "might also leave Washington Monday or Tuesday," if there is no movement in the talks.

He said the Palestinians were awaiting the Israeli delegation's response to several of their concerns on human rights, notably the status of 400 Palestinians who were expelled in December from the occupied territories to southern Lebanon.

A working session of Israeli-Palestinian committee charged with improving human rights in the West Bank and Gaza was interrupted last week by the Palestinians, who accused Israel of footdragging in the case of the exiles.

The Israelis were themselves awaiting responses to the working documents they submitted last week to their Palestinian and Lebanese counterparts.

The Israeli delegation was withholding all comment until it received responses to its proposals, a delegation source said.

The document submitted to the Palestinians contained a draft declaration of principles calling for internationally-supervised elections in the occupied territories and recognising the geographic integrity of the territories that should be given autonomy for a five year period.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said in Tunis the reduction in the number of Palestinian delegates to the talks was in protest at unfulfilled U.S. promises and Israeli moves.

Mr. Arafat also told the Palestinian Wafa news agency that the PLO had ordered the suspension of working groups on Palestinian self-rule and on water and land resources.

The delegation was cut to a "small symbolic number" of delegates who have to "finish the ninth round of talks because of commitments to our Arab brothers," Mr. Arafat said.

Jamil Hilla, the PLO's information department director, said the Palestinian delegation had been reduced to three members from 14 members. He did not say who they were.

Blaming Israel and the United States, Mr. Arafat described the

ninth round of talks in Washington as one marked by "deceitful moves" that put the peace process once again in danger.

Mr. Arafat also said Washington ignored promises it had made to the Palestinians to lure them back to the peace talks.

PLO Executive Committee member Sulaiman Najjab told Reuters the Palestinians had also decided to suspend their participation in three committees set up at the beginning of the current round of talks on Palestinian self-rule, land and water, and human rights in the territories.

The Palestinians agreed to resume talks last month under U.S. and Arab pressure after a four-month crisis caused by the Israeli expulsion of Palestinians in December.

Mr. Najjab said the PLO leadership, which met over the weekend in Tunis, had rejected an Israeli draft agreement on self-rule and had drawn up a counter-offer for the Israeli delegation.

"The Israeli draft ... contradicts the basis of the peace talks which are U.N. resolutions and the letter of assurance sent to the Palestinians by the U.S. administration," Mr. Najjab said.

"The Palestinian side will present its draft which will be in line with the basis of the negotiations," he added.

He said the Palestinians

# Rabin defeats no-confidence votes, but coalition prospects uncertain

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin Monday tried to reshuffle his cabinet to hold together his squabbling coalition government and fend off three "no-confidence" motions in parliament.

The coalition crisis, the worst in Mr. Rabin's 10 months in office, is posing a threat to U.S.-backed peace talks which depend on the government having wide backing to make compromises.

Two of the motions, brought by right-wing and nationalist parties, challenged the premier's tactics in the peace process. A third, brought by the ultra-orthodox United Torah Party, was critical of Mr. Rabin's embattled education minister, Shulamit Aloni.

The government handily survived the challenge in the 120-seat Knesset, or parliament, by votes of 56-47 on each issue. The ultra-orthodox Shas party, which precipitated the crisis, boycotted the balloting. Several others were absent.

Mr. Rabin had been expected to survive. He controls 62 seats in the



Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left) and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres discuss the coalition crisis (AFP photo)

Knesset. If the six Shas legislators quit the government, Mr. Rabin could cling to power with the support of five Arab legislators outside the coalition. But he would be without a "Jewish majority" he feels is crucial for manoeuvring in peace talks with Palestinians.

Earlier Mr. Rabin persuaded Mrs. Aloni to step down and take

a compromise portfolio, government sources said.

"The affair is almost behind us. Only a few details are left to be sorted out," Mr. Rabin told reporters at parliament.

The details are, the sources said, that ultra-orthodox Interior Minister Aryeh Deri, who

(Continued on page 10)

## King assures Clinton of commitment to peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has assured U.S. President Bill Clinton of his commitment to an Arab-Israeli peace settlement and democratisation of Jordan.

In a May 9 letter, a copy of which was provided to the Jordan Times by the Royal Palace, King Hussein told Mr. Clinton that Jordan will consolidate the democratisation programme introduced in 1989.

King Hussein's comments were in response to a May 2 message from Mr. Clinton congratulating the Monarch on the 40th anniversary of his assumption of his constitutional powers.

Following is the text of the King's message to President Clinton:

"I was deeply moved by your warm message of friendship which I received on the 40th anniversary of my assumption of constitutional



powers in the service of Jordan.

"I am proud to have been able, together with all Jordanians regardless of their origins, to contribute to progress and stability. Together we have absorbed the negative



effects of every disaster that has overtaken this region and affected its peoples. As for the establishment of honourable, lasting and comprehensive Palestinian and Arab-Israeli peace, rest assured Mr. President, that we shall never be

found lacking in our sustained efforts to attain these lofty goals for the future of all the children of Abraham.

"Jordan has held a beacon of hope and freedom high throughout the years of darkness. It is natural that we shall never falter in our opposition to tyranny and abuse of basic rights both within our region and global village.

"I too look forward to a genuine rebirth of cooperation between true partners and friends, based on mutual respect between ourselves, our governments and peoples. We are ever proud of upholding the noble ideals and principles that guided the great American founding fathers and our forebears alike. In the spirit of the leaders of the Arab Renaissance Movement over decades, we shall also strive to realise the legitimate hopes and aspirations of all Arabs for a better world."

## Besieged Gazans appeal for U.N. aid

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — More than 400 Palestinians demonstrated at U.N. relief headquarters Monday, appealing for food aid as Israel's closure of the occupied Gaza Strip entered its seventh week.

The Gaza residents staged a sit-down strike in front of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) headquarters in Gaza City.

Israel sealed off the nearly two million Palestinians of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in late March to try to stem a wave of attacks against Jews.

Demonstrator Baker Fahsi, a 42-year-old father of nine who had worked in construction in an affluent Tel Aviv suburb until the closure, said he now owns his neighbourhood food store 600 shekels (\$220).

"I can't go on like this," he said. "I made 70 shekels (\$26) day in Israel. The grocer is demanding his money and he won't loan me any more."

In a news release, UNRWA complained of a \$29 million deficit for 1993. It said without additional donations of cash and food, it would have to freeze its aid programmes at current levels despite increasing needs.

Israeli authorities maintain there are no shortages of food for the 750,000 residents of Gaza. They say people in need can apply to army welfare agencies for help.

The army said it was checking a radio report Israeli officials turned away on Monday a shipment of food an clothing donated for needy Gazans.

UNRWA began handouts to 13,670 families in camps around Jerusalem and Nabulus at the end of April and will continue until May 19.

UNRWA spokesman Sandro

Tucci added that 3,400 refugee families began receiving the aid of 50 kilograms of flour and two kilos of powdered milk in Bethlehem and Hebron camps last week.

Another 21,000 refugee families who live outside the camps on the West Bank will be given rations in the coming days.

UNRWA expects to distribute food to 60 per cent of the 472,000 refugees on the West Bank, Mr. Tucci said.

Palestinian refugee families used to receive every two months 50 kilos of flour, 10 kilos of rice, five kilos of sugar and five kilos of cooking oil.

UNRWA has resources to ensure only four emergency handouts of flour and milk to 120,000 of the 132,000 refugee families, or 591,000 people, in Gaza by the end of the year.

Economic situation worsens

The income of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has fallen by at least 36 per cent over the past five years, while unemployment has risen to 40 per cent, according to a U.N. study released Monday.

According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) study published in Washington, gross domestic product slipped 12 per cent annually from 1988 to 1990 in the occupied territories (17 per cent in the Gaza Strip and 11 per cent in the West Bank).

The industrial infrastructure is not well developed in the territories, said the study. In 1990, 4,455 factories were counted, but only five per cent employed more than 10 workers.

While figures for 1991 and 1992 are not yet available, the situation continues to deteriorate in the occupied territories, said the U.N. body (see page 10).

## Iraq opens borders after 6-day closure

By F.V. Vivekanandam

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Hundreds of trucks closed the main Amman-Baghdad highway near the border crossing at Trebil and hundreds more prepared to head for the frontier Monday ahead of the expected lifting of an Iraqi-ordered five-day border closure.

Officials and Iraqi diplomatic sources said the closure, which went into effect early Wednesday to reinforce an Iraqi move to check currency smuggling after the invalidation of part of its pre-1990 banknotes, was expected to be lifted Monday/Tuesday midnight.

Vehicles were expected to be allowed in from around 6 a.m., the Iraqi sources said. Most of the vehicles had spent as many as six days at the border in the wake of the closure, which came as a total surprise.

Thousands of Iraqis stranded in Jordan and Jordanian businessmen anxious to find out whether they stood any chance to recover their losses in the invalidated currency (see page 10) were expected to flood the border crossing Tuesday.

Jordan is the sole official lifeline for Iraq, which is under sweeping international sanctions which include an air embargo.

The Iraqi authorities offered a 48-hour exemption for diplomats and official delegation to enter and leave the country immediately after order the closure, but imposed a blanket ban on all travellers and vehicles since late Thursday.

Similar measures and tightening of border patrols were also adopted at Iraq's other borders and along the lines that separate rebel Kurds in the north of the country.

Nayef Hawatme, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), who crossed the border to Jordan Friday, was the only known exception to the total closure. Several senior Iraqi diplomats were among those turned away from Trebil by the border security forces, who were reinforced by members of the elite Republican Guard.

Hundreds of Iraqi soldiers supervised by Republican Guards patrolled the 600-kilometre desert frontier in an effort to foil smugglers trying to take advantage of a Monday deadline for the cancelled currency to be exchanged within Iraq.

Iraq, which has set the death penalty for currency smugglers, has not reported any immediate border interceptions after closing the crossing point.

Tankers carrying Iraqi oil to Jordan were also included in the closure order, but are expected to resume their normal trips early Tuesday with additional Iraqi vehicles joining the fleet to make up for the short-fall caused in the kingdom's strategic reserves by the five-day suspension in supply.

Reports from Baghdad said hundreds of thousands of people had clogged the counters of state-run Rasheed and Rafidain banks over the past six days to exchange the invalidated British-printed 25-dinar pre-crisis banknotes for new bills printed in Iraq.

## Dilemma brews for 'Palestinian police force'

By Mariam Shablin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — While in the process of preparing to set up a loyal task force that would police the occupied territories within the context of a self-government arrangement, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) may find itself in open confrontation with young Palestinian militants who have been fighting an uneven battle against the occupation forces.

The creation of the force has been one of several topics on the agenda of the Palestinian-Israeli bilateral talks, whose ninth round is currently being held in Washington. The PLO leadership in Tunis is meanwhile readying itself to supervise such a force in the event that an agreement is reached with the Israelis on its formation.

As far as Palestinian officials are concerned the proposed police force should include members from the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) which are currently based in Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan. But, PLO



Many Palestinian youths taking active part in intifada enforcement groups are feeling let down by the leadership (file photo)

officials concede, Israel is unlikely to accept anybody other than Gaza and West Bank residents, at least in the initial stages of the agreement.

To ensure the success of this project, Tunis-based PLO officials maintain, the proposed police force would have to be

made up of West Bank and Gaza residents with confirmed loyalty to the mainstream PLO faction Fatah.

Since the envisaged brigade would be expected to constitute the back-bone of Palestinian law enforcing units in the territories, its operation is targeted

for early on in the interim period of self-government, once agreement with Israel is reached.

But even at this early stage of preparations the PLO stands accused of trying to undermine those armed Palestinian groups in the occupied territories who

do not support Palestinian participation in the peace talks. Damascus-based Palestinian groups, which are opposed to the talks, have claimed that Fatah is trying to disband and disarm its own armed factions in the West Bank and Gaza in an attempt to consolidate full control in the occupied territories.

Palestinian armed groups inside the territories include the so-called "Black Panthers" in the West Bank and the "Fateh Hawks" in the Gaza Strip. Both groups are Fatah affiliated groups of young men armed with light weapons.

Although recent instructions by the Fatah-backed Unified Leadership of the Intifada have urged Palestinians to step up their resistance against the occupation forces, the Damascus-based factions claim that the call does not include armed resistance by those groups against the occupation.

A Fatah denial, in the form of a counter accusation, was issued this week in Amman. In

(Continued on page 10)

## DFLP opposes peace talks, but does not rule out role in election

By Sana Atiyeh

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A prominent Palestinian leader, who is opposed to the continuation of the Arab-Israeli negotiations under the Madrid formula, says that while his group rejects the conditions of the talks, he does not rule out the possibility of taking part in legislative elections in the occupied territories if they are held under a mutually accepted formula.

"While we continue to reject the Israeli proposals for limited self-rule, we likewise renounce the use of violence to solve internal political conflicts," said Nayef Hawatme, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

Speaking to the Jordan Times after returning to Amman from a week-long visit to Baghdad, Mr. Hawatme said that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had denied he

ever blessed the Mideast peace talks, and that he continued to oppose the U.S.-led peace process. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat stated in Baghdad two months ago that the Iraqi president had supported the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its negotiations with Israel.

"The Iraqi president confirmed that he never said what he was quoted as saying," Mr. Hawatme said, referring to Mr. Arafat's statements about the Iraqi endorsement of the peace talks.

"Iraq is against these negotiations which aims at normalising Arab-Israeli relations, and he (Saddam) said he advised all the Palestinian leaders with whom he met to withdraw from the talks, and to stick by the intifada and national unity to enable the possibility of holding new negotiations based on international resolutions and according to a single standard applied in the Middle East as in the

Gulf," Mr. Hawatme said. The Damascus-based Palestinian leader, who opened a DFLP office in Baghdad during his visit "to ensure our independent decisions," also discussed with President Saddam efforts for Arab reconciliation and bringing Iraq back into the Arab fold after its isolation following the Gulf crisis.

Speaking at his hotel suite in Amman, Mr. Hawatme — who said he held more than one round of meetings with President Saddam — added that they discussed "the possibility and steps to be taken in launching an initiative in a number of Arab capitals, governments and parliaments, to convene a comprehensive reconciliation framework to reevaluate what happened in the Gulf in a spirit of solidarity."

Describing the sanctions against Iraq as being "Arab in

(Continued on page 10)

مكتبة من الصحف



Pepper (sweet) .....	200 / 14
Potato .....	210 / 16
Tomato .....	210 / 16





HIS MAJESTY King Hussein Monday conferred on visiting Omani envoy Shabib Ben Taimour, the Jordanian Al Nabda Medal of the First Order. Mr. Ben Taimour, who arrived in Jordan last week, is advisor for environmental affairs to Sultan Qaboos bin Sa'id. The presentation of the medal took place at the Royal Court in the presence of officials and Jordan's ambassador to Oman and the Omani ambassador to Jordan.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

## Premier congratulates Eritrean leader

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday sent a cable to the head of the Eritrean Provisional Government Issais Afeworki voicing Jordan's delight over the outcome of the Eritrean people's referendum which was held in the country on April 23. The referendum resulted in the people voting for independence from Ethiopia. Sharif Zeid said Jordan was looking forward to strong ties of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and Eritrea.

## Minister urges expanding agricultural sector

RAMTHA (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Fayez Al Khasawneh Monday said the feasibility of agriculture for any nation cannot be measured in terms of profits and losses "because it is a sacred duty which achieves the national identity and links people to their land." In a lecture at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), Dr. Khasawneh called for expanding the agricultural sector and supporting its workers. He said conflicts between countries on supporting agricultural commodities in world trade had reached the extent of imposing sanctions by one side on another, stressing that such conflicts are in fact a continuous struggle for existence.

## Jordan team leaves to monitor Cambodian elections

AMMAN (Petra) — An 11-member delegation representing the Ministry of Interior left Amman for Cambodia to take part in United Nations-sponsored monitoring mission of the general elections there. The Jordanian government had earlier received a request from the U.N. secretary general to participate in the seven-nation team that would monitor and supervise the elections, due in the last week of May.

## RJ takes off for Chicago May 20

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier, announced Monday that its first flight to Chicago will depart Amman on May 20. RJ will be making two weekly flights to the U.S. city, employing Tristar jets which accommodate 240 passengers, a RJ statement said. With the addition of Chicago to its international routes, RJ will be reaching four destinations in North America including New York, Montreal and Toronto.

## Road accidents kill 7 in last week of April

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) announced Monday that seven persons were killed and 275 others were injured in 488 road accidents during the last week of April. In another statement, the PSD said that the first week of May the number of major crimes decreased sharply.

## Iraq-Jordan transport firm to meet Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company will open a meeting in Amman Saturday to review the company's operations. The Jordanian side to the meetings will be led by Deputy Premier and Transport Minister Ali Suheimat. The two-day meeting will also discuss several financial and administrative matters.

## Australia offers new meat chiller to Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Australia has offered to provide a new meat chiller to the Amman Municipal Abattoir (slaughterhouse) at Ain Ghazal. At a recent ceremony in Amman Australian Ambassador to Jordan, Jon Sheppard, handed the Amman Mayor Mohammad Bashir a letter from the chairman of the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation (AMLC), R. Austen, formally offering to provide the new unit. In his letter, Mr. Austen acknowledged the excellent relationship that has developed between the AMLC and the private and government sectors in Jordan that are involved in the live sheep trade. As a result, the AMLC and the Australian live sheep industry has formed a consortium to fund the construction of the chiller, after an Australian technical expert had visited the abattoir in 1992 to develop the specifications for it. The new unit will increase the capacity of the chilling system to hold 2,000-3,000 sheep per day, plus 300-400 cattle. At a meeting with the mayor, Australia also offered to provide free technical assistance to the Amman Municipality in drawing up specifications for the new slaughterhouse facility.

## Yajouz residents complain of lack of services

RUSEIFA (Petra) — Residents of the housing estate at Yajouz have complained to the government about insufficient basic services. Their representatives said in interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that they were in need of regular bus service, a school and telephone services.

## Algerian education head arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Algerian Education Minister Ahmad Jabbar arrived in Amman Monday on a four-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of his counterpart Thounan Al Hindawi. The Algerian minister will hold meetings with government ministers and will tour the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the Higher Council for Science and Technology (JUST) and comprehensive schools for girls.

## Minister calls for press council

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Information Mahmoud Al Sharif Monday called for the creation of a higher press council, offering advice and consultations to journalists. In a lecture at Yarmouk University, Mr. Sharif said such a council, which would include specialists in the field, will assume the task of guidance rather than punishing journalists, stressing the need to set ethical standards for the profession.

## Iranian aviation officials arrive for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — An Iranian civil aviation delegation arrived in Amman Monday to hold talks with Jordanian officials on the prospect of opening an air route between Jordan and Iran. The delegation which is headed by Iranian Deputy Minister of Roads and Transport and head of the Civil Aviation Authority Mohammad Bani Bakharyan was received by Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority Ahmad Juweiber, senior CAA officials and staff from the Iranian embassy in Amman.

## U.S. music ensemble to award scholarship

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American Apple-Hill Chamber Players Monday began a four-day visit to Jordan to perform concerts, conduct master classes and award a scholarship enabling a Jordanian music student to participate in the 1993 Apple-Hill Summer Festival.

The players, comprising Betty Hawk (viola), Richard Hattshorne (double bass), Robert Merfeld (piano), Paul Cohen (cello), Mowmy Pearson (violin) and Eric Stumacher (piano), will jointly hold workshops with the Jordan Armed Forces Orchestra and the teaching faculty at the National Conservatory (NMC)/Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

The group will also perform a concert at the University of Jordan at 8:00 p.m. tonight.

The Apple-Hill Chamber Players' visit to Jordan will culminate on Thursday May 13 in the announcement of the winner of a music performance contest organised by the group. Eleven Jordanian students are competing for

the scholarship enabling the winner to participate in the group's annual summer festival at Apple-Hill Farm in Nelson, New Hampshire from June through August. Apple-Hill Players will also present a double bass instrument as a gift to the NMC.

The visiting players' activities in Jordan come as part of cooperation between the NMC and the American Centre (USIS) in Amman.

The group is one of America's foremost chamber ensembles and has won nationwide distinction for its vital and eloquent presentations of chamber literature for piano and strings. During each summer, the Apple-Hill Chamber Players are the core faculty for the internationally-celebrated Apple-Hill Summer Festival. The players have expanded Apple-Hill's intergenerational student population to include students recruited through workshops held during their international tours.

## Muslim-Christian party sends message to Pope

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab Democratic Islamic Movement (Doa'a), which received legal authorisation as a political party last month, sent a message to Pope John Paul II this week explaining its principles as an Islamic-Christian party and calling for an Islamic-Christian dialogue on the widest possible level. Doa'a spokesman Marwan Sudah told the Jordan Times that the message, which explains the need for further interaction between the two faiths, was handed personally to the Pope at the Vatican by an emissary, and the party was awaiting a favourable reply.

Only one month after its official legalisation, the party has completed its organisational plans in the various governorates and elected provincial leaders including women, said Mr. Sudah, the first Christian member of the party.

He said that elections for the party leadership in the Amman area will be held Wednesday.

More than 1,000 Muslims and Christians have registered as party members, including women, Mr. Sudah said.

When it was legalised, the party had 72 founding members including 12 Christians and 11 women, but the number of women has at present reached nearly 30 per cent of the total number of members, Mr. Sudah said. "Our party aims to bring about and promote closer relations and interaction between Christians and Muslims and joint work to safeguard the nation's interests," the spokesman said.

Christians are joining the party now that they are sure that their membership does not compromise their religious beliefs in any way, especially as the party is oriented towards achieving closer ties among the Muslim and Christian communities in Jordan,

he explained.

Emphasising that the party has no affiliation to any foreign circles, Mr. Sudah said members of the U.S. and French diplomatic missions had visited the party offices in Amman to familiarise themselves with the party programme, as they did with other parties.

The U.S. diplomats, he added, wanted to determine whether the party leaders and the party programme were directed against United States policies in the Middle East.

Mr. Sudah said Doa'a party leaders levelled strong criticism of all foreign policies regarded as hostile to the Arabs and supportive of Israel.

He said his party has proposed to four other Jordanian parties the submission of a joint petition to the government to introduce an amendment to the country's 1986 election law, demanding that the one-man-one-vote system be adopted.

Without naming the other four parties Mr. Sudah said that together with Doa'a, these are now pursuing efforts to achieve this goal.

Last month the Doa'a spokesman criticised present Islamic movements which, he said, adopted regressive methods of analysis of the Koran.

He indicated that Doa'a's principles are intermingled, have "Arabism-Islamism" dimensions and are based on democracy and the Shura principles of Islam.

The party manifesto of 25 points stresses that the Arab Christians form an integral part of the Arab-Islamic culture and that the Islamic and Christian values are sublime and should be defended by all means.

The party principles support the construction of a solid national economy, equal opportunities for men and women, and pledge continued struggle against fanaticism and backwardness.

## Jordan, Egypt prepare pilgrim transport facilities

AQABA (Petra) — Jordanian and Egyptian officials met here Monday to discuss transport facilities for the Egyptian pilgrims going to Mecca through the port of Aqaba and agreed on several measures designed to remove travel obstacles and delays.

A statement said the officials discussed difficulties that arose in last year's pilgrimage season which resulted from the lack of sufficient means of transport, shortage of ferries commuting between Aqaba and Nweibeh and the delay in the arrival of pilgrims' luggage.

The two sides decided to assign two quays at the Aqaba harbour

for three ferries to dock at the same time in order to speed up travel operations.

The Egyptian officials said larger space was assigned at the Nweibeh port to accommodate trucks, buses or small cars, and other facilities have been installed to facilitate procedures.

The two sides agreed that priority should be given to the transportation of pilgrims and their luggage, adding that operations room will be established in Nweibeh and Aqaba for the exchange of information between the two sides to help control transportation procedures.



THE SOCIAL Committee of Royal Jordanian, the national airline, Sunday visits the Social Rehabilitation Centre for the Handicapped in the Baqaa refugee camp, north of Amman. The committee members offered the centre a new refrigerator as a token gift. The social committee is made up of RJ staffers who take part in philanthropic work and social development projects. Contributions to their activities are collected from RJ personnel and/or management.

## King praises Jordan-Japan ties, based on clarity, mutual confidence

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday expressed his deep satisfaction with the current level of Jordanian-Japanese relations which he said were based on clarity and mutual confidence.

Speaking at a meeting with President and Chairman of the Board of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan (OECF) Akira Nishigaki, King Hussein said "Jordan values the human being because he represents the real durable wealth."

"We call on all concerned in the region to open the way for and uphold human rights, and adopt political pluralism to give people an opportunity to shoulder responsibility and enhance the meaning of democracy," said King Hussein.

Mr. Nishigaki emphasised the importance of Jordan's role as an element of stability in the region through its economic, cultural and political policies.

Expressing his delight at familiarising himself with the successful democratic process and development in Jordan, Mr. Nishigaki said his country would continue to provide assistance to the countries of this region.

Mr. Nishigaki was later received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, with whom he reviewed Jordanian-Japanese economic relations.

Prince Hassan expressed regret over a practice by the international financial institutions in dealing with the countries of the Middle East individually, whereby they fund projects totally independent from one another.

He said there was a need for these institutions to deal with the



His Majesty King Hussein receives President and Chairman of the Board of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan Akira Nishigaki at the Royal Court (Petra photo).

countries of the area from a regional perspective.

Mr. Nishigaki outlined his views about means of bolstering Japanese-Jordanian cooperation.

He said Japan understands the basic and positive role played by Jordan in the region, pledging his country's determination to further strengthen bilateral relations. He added that Japan and Jordan hold similar views on many matters.

The OECF was established in 1961 in accordance with the Overseas Economic Cooperation

Fund Law of Japan. Its purpose is to promote Japan's cooperation by providing funds for industrial development and economic stability in developing countries.

An official at the Japanese embassy here said the OECF has been extending loans to foreign governments including Jordan, government agencies and other eligible organisations in the developing world.

He said Jordan's financial contribution to the Middle Eastern countries affected by the Gulf crisis amounted to \$2,000 million.

Up to March 1992, the OECF has provided eight project-type loans and three commodity loans to Jordan totalling about \$147,961 million yen.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Japan gave Jordan soft loans totalling \$700 million during the Gulf crisis to help the country overcome its economic difficulties.

Accompanied by a three-member team, Mr. Nishigaki, who started his visit to Jordan on May 7, is expected to leave for home today.

## Cost of living up to 6.8% in 1992

AMMAN (Petra) — The cost of living index has risen to 6.8 per cent in 1992 compared to the year before, according to a report issued by the Department of Statistics.

The report said the index had risen by a total 68 per cent between 1988 and 1992; the highest rise was witnessed in 1989, when that year it rose 27 per cent.

The second and third highest percentages were registered in 1990 and 1991, at 22 and 13 per cent.

The report also said that food expenditures in 1992 were at their highest at 39.25 per cent, followed by shelter expenditures which stood at 26.41 per cent, commodities and services at 24.42 per cent, and clothes at 9.9 per cent of the total expenditures.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

## EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Adnan Al Sharif at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of Yemeni heritage which includes photos and paintings depicting development in Yemen, books on the history of Yemen, traditional costumes and handicrafts at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Exhibition of photos of His Majesty King Hussein and aspects of development in Jordan under his leadership at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Youssef Abdou at Al Balka's Gallery, Al Fubeis city.
- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Fragments: Weavings and Works on Paper" by Kevin A. Eluch and Margaret M. Eluch at the American Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Saba Kathib Nour at the Spanish Cultural.
- ★ Exhibition of contemporary Japanese posters at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of posters at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ Exhibition of photographs at the British Council.

## FILM

- ★ Russian film entitled "The Choice" at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation at 7:30 p.m.



UNIVERSITY OF Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh (third from left) Monday opens an exhibition at the University, marking the 800th anniversary of the death of Muslim leader Saladdin. The exhibition, which will last until Wednesday, includes scale models and maquettes of architectural achievements in the holy city of Jerusalem, Karak and Ajloun castles and the Saladdin fortresses.





An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Established 1975  
جورديان ديلي بيمية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

**Chairman of the Board of Directors:**  
**MAHMOUR AL KAYED**

**Director General:**  
**MOHAMMAD AMAD**

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
**GEORGE S. HAWATMEH**

**Editorial and advertising offices:**  
**Jordan Press Foundation.**

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

**Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO**  
**Facsimile: 661242**

*The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.*

**THE IMPLICATIONS** of the Israeli cabinet crisis that developed and grew over the fate of Education Minister Shulamit Aloni go beyond the immediate Israeli context<sup>1</sup> to touch upon the continuous tug-of-war between liberal and ultra-conservative forces throughout the Middle East region. At stake is the fate of the struggle between those who are perpetually entrenched on the right and others who seek to accelerate the dynamics of modernisation and change in their respective countries.

For us Arabs, there may be a sad irony in the crisis. It is that both the ultra orthodox Shas Party, to which Interior Minister Aryeh Deri belongs, and the liberal Meretz, of which Aloni is leader, are key supporters of the peace process with the Arabs. Just as Aloni and her 11 Meretz colleagues in the Knesset are avowed supporters of the peace talks, so is in fact Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the spiritual leader of Shas Party. Yosef is often said to hold the key to the fate of Arab-Israeli negotiations, especially when the time comes for Israel to make territorial concessions. He has spoken strongly and clearly for peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours by announcing that in Judaism peace is more important and pressing than territory. There may be little wonder in the fact that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has found himself in a bind for not being able to live with or without either Shas or Meretz in his government.

But while we do not intend to go into detailed Israeli politics, we think that a victory of Jewish fundamentalists, from Shas or any other religious party, over the leftist Meretz in the Labour-led coalition would constitute a setback for the forces of peace in Israel. The Palestinians in particular have cause to worry should Alon's party suffer defeat at the hands of Israeli hardliners and religious bigots. Alon's decision to a less important portfolio in Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet could also represent a blow to peace prospects and Arab-Jewish coexistence in general. Speculation that Rabin might appoint Alon to head another important ministry could be a prudent move by the Israeli prime minister. Fundamentalists everywhere look at education as a vehicle for change, and they are right. However, peace that has eluded this region for decades now would be even a greater instrument for the desired change towards coexistence and cooperation. The absence of peace will only drive radicals on both sides to more entrenchment and more extremism. The likes of Shulamit Aloni in Israeli society should not be allowed to lose the battle. A voice like hers, which advocates Palestinian national rights should not be silenced at the altar of the "elders of Zion."

**ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

THE ISRAELI government crisis has cropped up a decisive moment just as the Arabs and the Israelis are about to embark on the crucial third week of negotiations in Washington, said the Al Doustour daily Monday. At this particular juncture, when the Israeli government was supposed to declare its clear position and offer certain concessions to help settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, differences among the Israeli ministers emerged, said the paper. It said that judging from previous experience one can only say that whenever Israel feels that its back is to the wall, it creates internal problems to delay taking crucial decisions. It is feared that the Rabin government would now exploit the internal cabinet differences to perpetuate its present intransigent position, laying fresh obstacles in the path of a Middle East settlement, the paper continued. Attention could be shifted from the peace talks to the differences in the Israeli government and role of the Shas (religious) Party inside the coalition, continued the paper. What would be interesting to see, added the paper, is the attitude of the U.S. administration which had pledged to play the role of full partner to help achieve a lasting settlement.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Monday criticised the government for failing to take decisions on issues of concerns to the public. The government has decided to stay on for at least two more months, thus freezing all economic, legislative and political decisions and leaving everything unchanged for fear of arousing the anger of its opponents, charged Fahd Al Fanek. The writer said that some ministers are rejoicing over the government's decision to stay on because it means they can remain in office on the one hand, and use extra time to win the favour of the electorate if they plan to run for elections, on the other. In the meantime, no one expects the government, which now serves on a transitional one, to do much, having failed in the past one and a half years to make major achievements, said the writer. The government has failed to take a decision regarding the application of the sales tax, as it had pledged to do in August 1979, simply because some of the Cabinet members want to run for Parliament this year oppose this for fear it would compromise their chances of success, the writer continued. Neither did the government want to take a decision concerning the election law, or whether elections will be held this year, or the question of introducing amendments to the present law, said the writer. In addition, he said, the government has failed to take a decision concerning the agenda of the Jordanian-Israeli talks in Washington. He charged that this government could not claim it has achieved any step towards economic progress or stability in the country.

### The View from Fourth Circle

The enormity of the changes taking place in the world after the end of the cold war is difficult to grasp all at once. Yet, the new global realities are slowly evolving into what I believe may be a fresh pattern of ideological relationships that may define the world for many decades to come. One needs to step back from the day-to-day news and try to identify broader trends. A few are already clear.

The former East/West divide (NATO/Soviet Bloc) was the anchorage around which the economic concept of first, second and third worlds developed in the second half of this century. This dual categorisation of countries according to their ideological and economic condition appears to be giving way to a new set of criteria, which are predominantly economic, racial, and religious.

The new arrangement is not as simple and neat as the old cold war, East/West, North/South divide. The emerging new global ideological dynamic comprises a relatively clear northwest/southeast demarcation line of rich/poor countries, which corresponds very approximately to racial and religious distinctions. The pivot of this ideological schism is the Mediterranean basin. The northwest is largely composed of industrial/consumer societies that are predominantly white in colour, Christian in religion, and imperial in temperament. (By "imperial" I don't mean only that they physically occupy and exploit foreign peoples, as they did in the last several centuries. I mean, in today's context, that they find it acceptable, probably even imperative, that they enter into self-imposed military-commercial arrangements that allow them to maintain access to and control of selected resources and lands in the south that are deemed vital to their own lifestyle, comfort, and survival — or that they can drop like hot potatoes when the southerners' value has lapsed).

The northwestern consumer democracies are now approximately faced by a diverse collection of southeastern states that are largely non-industrial, non-Christian, and non-white. This is not necessarily a confrontational situation, and these two worlds do not have to end up in a combative mode. Yet, initial indications suggest that a new brand of ideological confrontation may be in the making; this could lead to other forms of combat (economic, diplomatic, religious, cultural and military) if current trends are not checked and reversed.

-- In the post-cold war world, the United States is the symbol of northwestern military dominance and cultural ethno-centrism, and it leads the northwestern cultures in a campaign that seeks not only to maintain their own values and lifestyle (which is understandable, and perfectly reasonable), but also to impose it on the rest of the world (which is questionable, both morally and historically). The Kurds should not only be free; they should also be happy by eating McDonald's onion rings.

The first signs of this new ideological demarcation line are not pretty. The Gulf war, Bosnia, southern Sudan, Tajikistan and other situations suggest that our emerging new world order is based on the concept of peripheral peoples, non-strategic countries, disposable cultures, and non-vital human and cultural resources. Iraqis, Sudanese, Bosnians and others can suffer and die, but they are not important to the northwestern culture of shopping malls, the new world bond, and the new world reality. Non-benign neglect, along with fast cars and short historical memories, are the new operative principles that may drive northwestern policy towards the rest of the world.

A second concept we notice is that of double standards in a wide range of applications, such as implementing U.N. resolutions, international humanitarian law, human rights safeguards or democratic principles. We saw this applied viciously in the Gulf war, and we continue to see it throughout the world. Some war

criminals are prosecuted if they threaten the comforts of the northwest; others are decorated if they savage the disposable and negligible cultures of the southeast.

A third concept is that of technological barbarism, which means the use of advanced technologies and military overkill in conflict situations, in such a manner that northwestern lives are spared but southeastern lives are sacrificed in tens or hundreds of thousands. It is interesting to see how the northwestern obsession with assuring low casualties in the Gulf war has been the main reason for slow intervention to stop the suffering in Bosnia. *The northwest will only intervene in Bosnia in a manner that allows it to use the same technological barbarism we saw in Iraq.* This means not only massive killing of the enemy during battle, but the use of such massive overkill that the killing goes on for years. We see this most dramatically in Iraq today, where tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians suffer or die because of the continued impact of the bombing during the war, and of the sanctions that remain in force (both of which rely on advanced technologies).

**"The emerging new global ideological dynamic comprises a relatively clear northwest/southeast demarcation line of rich/poor countries, which corresponds very approximately to racial and religious distinctions."**

Allied to the concept of technological barbarism is the fourth new world order concept of technological racism. This means that northeastern countries, which desire a series of advanced technologies (missiles, ballistic nuclear knowhow, chemical/industrial technology) that are deemed inappropriate for south-eastern cultures. We live with a global "red line" of technological knowledge that we southeasterners are not supposed to cross, for beyond it lie forbidden fruits. If we do acquire any advanced technologies (such as AWACS in the hands of Arabs/Muslims) we must also allow northwestern chaperons to ride along to make sure that we do not misuse the technology that is amongst us, but not of us, and certainly not ours.

**"Techno-imperialism will be degrading to the ordinary and good people of the northwest in whose names the world will be conquered by salesman selling dog food cans but also dog food morality that is deceptively packaged in the false rhetoric of ethics, U.N. resolutions, international law and humanitarian intervention."**

It is intriguing to note that all the cultures that are deemed menacing pretenders to the nuclear/bio-chemical armaments club are southern, non-white, non-Christian, non-industrial, and/or dangerous, perhaps even demented. The marketing determined to get their hands on military means that should not be used by non-white, non-Christian, non-industrial cultures. It is also interesting to note that with the possible exception of North Korea and India, virtually all the countries which the northwest is trying to prevent from securing such advanced systems are Arab or Islamic (Iran, Algeria, Libya, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan and Sudan, to name only the most obvious). The geo-politics of technological racism coincides alarmingly with the map of Arabism and Islam.

Many people, governments and cultures in the south have



**By Maria Kielmas**

**LONDON** — An interesting game of brinkmanship has emerged between Russia and the former Soviet republics as all try to develop their oil industries through cooperation with the Middle East as well as western capital. Behind the numerous proposals to construct oil and gas pipelines in every direction is a fight over the control of the former USSR's nuclear weapons and the creation of a tighter union between members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The Russian military holds the upper hand in this game and it wants to do business with the Middle East.

Kazakhstan and the Ukraine have been trying to counter Russian pressure on Ukraine to ratify the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START)-1 and for both republics to cede control of their nuclear weapons to Moscow. Kazakh President Nazarbayev has answered by playing two games in public. He is pushing for a closer economic union between the CIS states, but on the weapons issue siding with Ukraine in opposing Moscow's control. Kazakhstan has ratified the START-1 treaty, but has come to a head at the January CIS summit in Minsk when the two states opted for continuing CIS, not Russian, control over nuclear weapons on their soil.

So it came as no surprise when in February the Russian parliament failed to ratify Russia's participation in a project to build an oil pipeline from Kazakhstan's Tengizh field to the Russian Black Sea port of Novorossiysk. This project is being coordinated by the Caspian Pipeline Consortium which involves cooperation between Kazakhstan, Russia, Azerbaijan and Oman. The Russian parliament's failure to ratify the plan clearly was an example of the president and the parliament acting in concert, notwithstanding their arguments over other matters.

Equally unsurprising was news in February that Russia was going to curtail gas supplies to the Ukraine, ostensibly because of an argument over price. There is also a bid-off plan to construct a gas pipeline from Iran to Europe via Ukraine. But financing this will be difficult because of the ongoing U.S. embargo on investment in Iran, while significant western investment in Ukraine will be held back until Kiev ratifies the START-I treaty. Both countries are also deemed such poor credit risks these days that sufficient resources from other investors will

not be forthcoming quickly.

Kazakhstan is also now looking to Iran for a new oil export route and cooperating in oil exploration with Oman. But whatever oil may be found will be of little use until it can be transported out to a market. Western governments' willingness to back the finance for an export route via Iran will not increase following recent reports that Kazakh nuclear weapons have been finding their way to Iran. But it is worth noting that the officer corps of the Kazakhstan army, which is presumably trying to broker the alleged deals, is Russian.

In late February the *Interfax* news agency reported that the Russian military had suggested the country's oil developments could be financed through weapons sales, with the Middle East cited as one outlet. Since the Russian military's control over the oil sector is growing, it is in a very good position to cut oil for-

## LETTERS

## Options in a hospital

**To the Editor:**

Recently I underwent a minor operation on my finger at a private hospital in Amman. The operation took place in the morning, but as a precaution I decided to take a room in the hospital for a few hours, in case I had any reaction to the local anaesthetic or relaxation drugs given to me.

I can assure you it was one of the most frustrating experiences I ever had. Far from feeling that I was in a hospital, I felt more as though I was in an auctioneer's house, so high was the noise level.

In the room adjacent to mine was a family who had recently enjoyed the happy arrival of a baby. The din of their celebration was so loud that it was impossible for me to rest. Although I called nurses on two occasions, and they reassured me they would address the problem, the loud noise stayed on. I can only conclude that they did not ask the people to be quiet or that the "offenders" did not take any notice. One nurse even told me: "they are happy madam." Well, I am happy too, but usually a little bit mad.

This letter, however, is not really about one noisy family on one particular day. The lax attitude to visiting in the majority of our country's hospitals can only have a detrimental effect on those people seeking treatment there. Even a layman, such as myself, realises that operations and drugs cannot be the only cure to peoples' illnesses. Rest is very important too.

The majority of doctors in private hospitals in Jordan have been educated abroad and have experienced the very rigid visiting rules in Europe or the U.S. I am sure that they would acknowledge the advantages to the patients. Why then are they content to accept this "souk" situation here in Jordan?

However, if doctors and hospitals are happy to accept the status quo, then I feel it is only fair that patients be warned that a resting facility is not available and that it be suggested they stay at home.

**Sirvart Karmandarian,  
P.O. Box 5003,  
Amman.**



## Nkomo in new land war

By Cris Chinaka  
Reuters

**HARARE** — Veteran political fighter Joshua Nkomo is again beating the war drums, more than a decade after leading Zimbabwe's guerrilla campaign for black majority rule.

Mr. Nkomo is still fighting for the cause that drew him into nationalist politics 50 years ago by trying to wrest control of the land and wealth from whites and Indians and place it in the hands of the black majority.

"We are not bringing the whites down or being racist, but we want our people to be like them, up there," he told reporters recently.

The former guerrilla leader conducts his latest battles clad in tailored three-piece suits in boardrooms and conferences across the land, where he has a reputation as an uncompromising negotiator, especially on land deals.

"Land and farming is his first love," a government colleague said.

The grand old man of Zimbabwean politics, a burly figure from the warrior Matebele tribe and one of Zimbabwe's two vice-presidents, has become the most radical voice in a post-independence campaign by blacks to own businesses.

The 75-year-old Nkomo — commonly known as "the old man" or "the bull" for his abrasive style — recently raised the stakes by warning the government of a possible race war if blacks continued to have no major stake in the economy.

Mr. Nkomo has thrown his political weight behind a new business lobby which has been trying to steer blacks from their current major interests in township bottle stores, village grinding mills and small grocery shops into big industries.

With Mr. Nkomo's help, the indigenous Business Development Centre managed in the 1992/93 financial year to squeeze 100 million Zimbabwe dollars (\$15.6 million) in loans from a cash-strapped government to prop up its members.

But Mr. Nkomo, who says his political career spanning more than half a century would be unfulfilled if blacks remained poor, is demanding more concessions for his cause.

He said local authorities should introduce special long-term leases for blacks to acquire business property in towns, arguing that more prosperous whites and Indians had an unfair advantage.

"If we do not do this we shall find ourselves plunged into a pit far greater than the one that ended in 1979," Mr. Nkomo said in reference to a bloody seven-year guerrilla war that ended white minority rule in the Rhodesia, and ushered in an independent Zimbabwe in 1980.

Mr. Nkomo and Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe were co-leaders of a 40,000-strong guerrilla army that fought for independence.

"In order to avoid a conflict between the blacks and the well-to-do who are mainly whites, government has to deliberately assist disadvantaged blacks," Mr. Nkomo said.

Zimbabwe's independent Financial Gazette says Mr. Nkomo's views should be taken seriously.

"It is tempting and easy to dismiss these as political posturing but there is a...message in all this," said the paper, which is often critical of government policies.

In an editorial, The Weekly said blacks, who comprise 98 per cent of Zimbabwe's 10 million people, had control of only two per cent of the economy.

Financial institutions, it said, had exploited a lack of clear government policy on black advancement to perpetuate traditional ownership patterns.

"It is time both for established white businesses and government to realise that there has been no change in the status of the black person in the economy," it said.

"We cannot go on pretending that everything is okay when it is apparent that there is some silent apartheid."

Mr. Nkomo has led a development trust he formed with several other prominent politicians four years ago to encourage Zimbabweans, mainly blacks, to participate in commercial agriculture, industry, mining and other occupations.

It has used hundreds of millions of dollars from local and international donors to buy business interests across the country, including Zimbabwe's biggest cattle ranch, 862,000 acres (349,000 hectares) in southern Masvingo province.

Mr. Nkomo argues that Zimbabwe's ailing agriculture-based economy can only be revived by involving the majority in commerce and industry, particularly large-scale farming.

## China's Muslim minority left behind in oil rush

By Janet Snyder  
Reuters

**AKSU, China** — When China's veteran economic reformer, Deng Xiaoping, said some areas of this vast nation would grow rich faster than others, he spoke the truth.

Here in Xinjiang, the westernmost region of China, it is clear whose wealth is rising rapidly and whose is staying the same.

Uighur minority peasants rumble down unpaved roads from their fields in donkey carts, as Han Chinese — China's majority race — whizz past in Toyota land cruisers and Mercedes Unimog trucks.

Peking's leaders are pressing Xinjiang to forge ahead to develop what are believed to be vast oil reserves under the sands of the nearby Taklimakan desert.

But in their mad dash to make the country rich, Chinese planners are leaving a sizeable sector of the oil region's population in the dust.

Aside from a few truck drivers, virtually no Uighur or other Muslim minority is employed on the oilfields, which look to be Xinjiang's best and brightest hope to enable it to catch up with the galloping prosperity of coastal China.

"The work forces in Xinjiang's oilfields all come from other oilfields in China so we don't take local people," Xinjiang's Vice Governor Wang Lequan told Reuters.

He said there were no minority people on the oil rigs because "in the oil fields elsewhere in China there are no minority populations."

"With development of the oil industry here, we surely will hire minority people, but they must be trained first," Mr. Wang said.

In this isolated corner of a region the size of Western Europe, Uighur farmers till the soil with primitive ploughs drawn by mules or oxen — right in the shadow of the shining oil derricks

which could some day spell billions of dollars a year for China's coffers.

There are modern conveniences for them. But in vast stretches of the region, whole villages live in darkness after nightfall. There is no electricity.

Throughout the area, people resort to stealing chunks of asphalt from the roads, which they melt down and use to tar their roofs. Houses are made of mud and wattle.

Han Chinese, who tend to live in Xinjiang's cities, are doing much better. In contrast to the Uighurs, Hans have virtually all the trucks and cars and nearly all the farm machinery.

Uighur resentment at Han domination periodically erupts into separatist unrest.

China keeps a sizeable military presence in the region to guard against Peking's worst nightmare — the Turkic Uighurs uniting with their cousins across China's borders in a Muslim holy war for independence.

Uighur villagers' income tends to average only 732 yuan (\$128) a year compared with urban residents who make considerably more — an average 2,680 yuan (\$470). In the vast oil-rich Aksu region of southwest Xinjiang, 70 per cent of the 1.74 million population are Uighurs.

Most of the local officials are Hans and plum jobs in the best hotel in Xinjiang are monopolised by Hans.

Education for Uighurs is limited and schools are few, and school-aged children are often seen out in the fields during what should be classroom hours.

The two races rarely mix socially and intermarriage is rare. Uighurs and Chinese tend not to like each other much.

On several occasions during a 2,000 kilometre trek in Xinjiang's Tarim Basin, there was obvious hostility expressed by Uighurs towards Han Chinese who ventured into bazaars.

The feeling was mutual.

**ASMARA** — As Eritreans mark their newly won independence with boisterous parades and noisy street celebrations, politicians in this former Italian colony are looking with anxiety toward an uncertain future.

A three-day nationwide referendum that ended on April 15 showed nearly unanimous support for independence from Ethiopia, Eritrea's colonial ruler for 30 years. But independence, which will be formally declared on May 24, will not bring respite from the crippling legacy of three decades of civil war.

Three Eritreans in four still rely on donations from international relief agencies to meet their daily food requirements. Tens of thousands more languish in refugee camps awaiting resettlement. The country's industry and infrastructure — including the Red Sea port at Massawa — were largely destroyed during the civil war, which ended two years ago.

The secretary-general of the EPLF and presumptive president of independent Eritrea, Isayas Afewerki, has promised a revision of the code, but has hedged on how far he will go to accommodate international lenders and investors.

Ideological confusion reigns at the highest levels of the EPLF (Eritrean People's Liberation Front), as those who favour redistributive economic policies are pitted against others with more "free-market" philosophies.

ago when tanks belonging to the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) rumbled into the capital, driving out the last remnants of the beleaguered Ethiopian army.

Chief among the new government's concerns will be reconstruction, the cost of which is estimated at almost \$2.5bn. The provisional government has had only limited success since liberation in attracting foreign investment. Although the World Bank has stepped in with the first tranche of an aid package worth over \$100m, other lenders have hesitated to commit themselves until statehood is achieved and until

the government embarks on a programme of economic liberalisation.

Ideological confusion reigns at the highest levels of the EPLF, as those who favour redistributive economic policies are pitted against others with more "free-market" philosophies. The EPLF has been committed to a "mixed" economy since 1987, but there is little agreement over what the mixture should contain.

An investment code, promulgated in 1991, has been criticised abroad for its requirement that Eritreans hold a majority share in all joint ventures and for its restriction on foreign experts.

The secretary-general of the EPLF and presumptive president of independent Eritrea, Isayas Afewerki, has promised a revision of the code, but has hedged on how far he will go to accommodate international lenders and investors.

Ideological confusion reigns at the highest levels of the EPLF (Eritrean People's Liberation Front), as those who favour redistributive economic policies are pitted against others with more "free-market" philosophies.

Mr. Afewerki is also proceeding slowly on political liberalisation and the move to multi-party democracy. As the dominant institution in Eritrean society, the EPLF has been reluctant to allow rival groups to organise and operate freely. The provisional government has already moved to limit the activities of a private human rights organisation and has suspended publication of the group's newspaper. Other groups complain of harassment and even assassination of their members at home and abroad.

Supporters of the Eritrean Liberation Front, the original anti-Ethiopian guerrilla organisation

and nemesis of the EPLF, complain bitterly that they were excluded from the planning of the referendum and predict that the EPLF will use the top-sided results to bolster their hegemony. Nevertheless, Mr. Afewerki has pledged that political parties will eventually be allowed and that Eritreans will be treated equally under the new order, regardless of their role in the civil war. This will be a delicate balancing act indeed, as demobilised EPLF fighters, many of whom have been toiling without pay for almost two years, demand recognition and reward for their considerable sacrifices.

In foreign policy, the EPLF is pursuing a renegade, self-interested — and sometimes contradictory — strategy that avoids the rhetoric of regional, religious or ethnic solidarity common among other African and Middle Eastern states."

Mr. Afewerki is pursuing a renegade, self-interested — and sometimes contradictory — strategy that avoids the rhetoric of regional, religious or ethnic solidarity common among other African and Middle Eastern states. Eritrea is carefully cultivating an alliance with Israel, to the profound displeasure of Sudan, a close ally during the civil war, and Saudi Arabia, where thousands of Eritreans work. "Our political interests will determine how and when we choose our friends," Mr. Afewerki said. "Eritrea's relations with Israel are good. There has been a very clear policy towards Israel."

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

## Eritrea after independence What course the future?

By Stephen Hubbell

"In foreign policy, the EPLF is pursuing a renegade, self-interested — and sometimes contradictory — strategy that avoids the rhetoric of regional, religious or ethnic solidarity common among other African and Middle Eastern states."

and nemesis of the EPLF, complain bitterly that they were excluded from the planning of the referendum and predict that the EPLF will use the top-sided results to bolster their hegemony.

Nevertheless, Mr. Afewerki has pledged that political parties will eventually be allowed and that Eritreans will be treated equally under the new order, regardless of their role in the civil war. This will be a delicate balancing act indeed, as demobilised EPLF fighters, many of whom have been toiling without pay for almost two years, demand recognition and reward for their considerable sacrifices.

In foreign policy, the EPLF is pursuing a renegade, self-interested — and sometimes contradictory — strategy that avoids the rhetoric of regional, religious or ethnic solidarity common among other African and Middle Eastern states. Eritrea is carefully cultivating an alliance with Israel, to the profound displeasure of Sudan, a close ally during the civil war, and Saudi Arabia, where thousands of Eritreans work.

"Our political interests will determine how and when we choose our friends," Mr. Afewerki said. "Eritrea's relations with Israel are good. There has been a very clear policy towards Israel."

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

Eritrea's disposition towards Ethiopia, its erstwhile adversary, remains to be determined. The leadership in Addis Ababa, which prevailed against the Mengistu regime just as the EPLF was winning its own struggle, has close links with the new government in Asmara and officially supported independence.

Ethiopia will be permitted free use of Eritrean ports at Massawa and Assab (with the loss of Eritrea, Ethiopia is now landlocked). Nevertheless, a substantial segment of the Ethiopian public regards secession as treason and an act of surrender by their government. To blunt revanchist sentiments in Ethiopia and decrease Eritrea's isolation, Mr. Afewerki apparently supports close economic cooperation between the two countries. Having forgiven Washington its support for Emperor Haile Selassie, Asmara is also actively seeking closer ties with the U.S. How successful it is remains to be seen.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.

— Middle East International.



## Lebanon fight for 2-2 draw with Hong Kong

BEIRUT (AFP) — Skirmishes broke out in East Beirut as Lebanon's return to World Cup soccer was clouded by controversy Sunday.

Hong Kong and Lebanese players exchanged blows and angry words on the pitch after a tough penalty decision gave the hosts their second consecutive 2-2 draw on the Asian Group D tournament in the Lebanese capital.

Hong Kong players clearly felt the home side and the intimidating banner-waving capacity 13,000 crowd influenced the Kuwaiti referee Hamed Al Hindiyani to give the 81st minute penalty from which Fadi Alouche scored the equalizer. "Let's just say I am disappointed," said a somber Hong Kong coach Chan Hung Ping after the game.

The players were to have their own inquest of chaotic events which saw substitute Loh Kai Wah sent off in injury time — and four others booked — before making any comment.

"Let's just say they are angry," added Chan.

Even many Lebanese observers reacted sceptically about the fall by one of the Lebanese players in the penalty box. Before then Al Hindiyani had resisted many home calls for spot kicks.

The Lebanese players, desperate for an equaliser, had missed several chances as they pressed throughout the final 45 minutes for a second goal.

The stunned crowd turned their fervor at Lebanon hosting its first post civil war sports event on their own players. The chant of "replace the goalkeeper" rang around the ground.

Tension between the two sides started almost straight away. Babkin Melikian went in very

hard for one challenge on Hong Kong goalkeeper Chan Hing-Wing who on recovering produced a brilliant save from another Melikian shot.

But Lebanon pulled back one goal on the stroke of half-time. Wael Nazha crossed the ball which Hong Kong goalkeeper Chan Hing Wing could only fist away and Joulfagi was waiting to smash it in.

Hong Kong spent most of the second half on the defensive but managed some dangerous counter-attacks.

After Alouche's equaliser, the game ended in near chaos with the referee not knowing where to turn to break up fights.

Hong Kong still lead the group D table through after South Korea were held 0-0 by Bahrain in their first group game.

It was a big disappointment for South Korean coach Kim Ho who had predicted before the game that his side would qualify for the deciding Asia zone second round by winning all their matches.

Kim said it may be time to retire some of his players — many of whom are veterans of the trip to the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

"Bahrain were very strong. They made it very difficult for us," he said. "It is disappointing but I think we will still qualify alright."

Bahrain coach Sebastiao Pereira commented: "I think we did everyone in the Group A favour with that game. It gives everyone a hope of beating the Koreans. They are not invincible."

Korea put on a listless display and were constantly troubled by attackers such as Khamis Eid Thani.

## Women's tour lacks consistent winner Martinez stuns Sabatini to win Italian Open

ROME (AP) — With Monica Seles off the tour, women's tennis has become a wide open game.

As the French Open approaches, no woman is dominating the scene.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario came into Rome as the hottest player on the circuit, but she was eliminated by Gabriela Sabatini.

The Argentine star, a darling of Roman fans, was considered a heavy favourite to take her fifth Italian Open title.

But Conchita Martinez, a top 10 player for several years but without a big win, upset Sabatini in two sets, 7-5, 6-1 Sunday to win her first major tournament.

After a women's tournament that failed to produce any taut matches, the men took over the Foro Italico Monday for their \$1.750 million tournament.

Pete Sampras and Jim Courier, the world's No. 1 and No. 2 ranked players, top the draw.

Other top seeds include No. 3 Boris Becker, a three-time Wimbledon champion who has never won on clay. No. 4 Goran Ivanisevic, a Croatian lefthander who was a finalist in Wimbledon last year and the veteran Ivan Lendl at No. 5.

In opening day matches, Ivanisevic faced Jaime Oncins of Brazil on centre court, followed by Sampras against Italy's Renzo Furlan.

Sabatini's loss in Sunday's final disappointed the 10,000 fans at centre court who tried in vain to spur on their "Gaby."

The No. 6 seed, who had earlier ousted No. 2 Martina Navratilova, said she wasn't disturbed by the partisan crowd and stuck to her game plan during the two-hour match.

She acknowledged that Sabatini was "the queen of Rome" and



Gabriela Sabatini

that "maybe before the match I was a little bit scared. But there were some fans for me, too."

Sabatini, the No. 3 seed, said she was tired after a first set that lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes.

"If you don't move well on the court and you don't control the game, you lose," Sabatini said. "More than mentally, I was tired physically."

Martinez, in fact, kept up the pressure from the baseline, while the Argentine scattered her shots long or hit into the net.

"Perhaps I should have taken more risks," said Sabatini, who rarely moved toward the net even though her volley was often successful.

The first set was close — with each player committing more than 20 unforced errors — but when Martinez finally succeeded in closing it out, Sabatini's seemed like she had nothing left.

The Argentine had won the title the last two years, twice beating Monica Seles, and was bidding to tie Chris Evert's record five Italian titles.

The win, worth \$150,000, was the 21-year-old Martinez's third tournament victory this year. Sabatini is so far without a title. She hasn't won a tournament since the Italian Open a year ago in her longest dry spell on the tour since 1986.

Seles was to have been the No. 1 seed, but was stabbed during a tournament in Hamburg, Germany, just three days before it began.

She expected to miss the French Open and maybe Wimbledon.

Such becomes first German to win German Open since 1964: In Hamburg, a tearful Michael Stich fulfilled a childhood dream Sunday, outlasting Andrei Chesnokov to become the first German in 29 years to capture his country's national tennis championship.

Stich fought off five set points to win the decisive third set tiebreaker, and went on to beat the unseeded Russian 6-3, 6-7, 7-6, 6-4 in the final of the \$1.7 million tournament.

Stich, who was born and grew up in Elmhorn, near Hamburg, broke into tears as he told the crowd of 10,000 that the German Open was the first tournament he had watched as a child.

"I've fulfilled my childhood dream. I've come here with my family to watch this tournament for 15 or 20 years," Stich, gasping for words, said in his victory speech.

After converting his fifth match point to claim victory, Stich leaped into the air with excitement and ran over to hug his wife, Jessica. In the process, he forgot the traditional shake of the loser's hand.

The Russian began to leave the court, and Stich and officials chased after him. Ranked No. 9 in the world two years ago, Chesnokov had not appeared in a final since Indian Wells, California in 1992.

"I haven't been in a final in so long, I forgot there was a victory ceremony," Chesnokov said.

## Suns survive Laker threat to advance

PHOENIX (Agencies) — The Phoenix Suns survived the Los Angeles Lakers' bid for the biggest upset in National Basketball Association play-off history Sunday, winning 112-104 in overtime to advance.

Charles Barkley led Phoenix with 31 points and 14 rebounds as the Suns became the first team to rally from two home defeats to win a best-of-five play-off series.

They advanced to a Western Conference semi-final series with San Antonio.

The Lakers were the only team in the play-offs with an overall losing record. They were seeded eighth, but came close to unseating the top-seeded team in the post-season.

The Lakers tied it at 87-87 with three minutes and 40 minutes left as James Worthy made three jump shots and a three-point shot in four and a half minutes.

Los Angeles then went ahead for the first time since the second period, but Barkley came back with a jump shot and Dan Majerle tied it 95-95 with seconds left.

The other Western Conference semi-finalists, Houston and Seattle, start their best-of-seven series Monday night.

In Richfield, Ohio, Brad Daugherty scored 24 points, grabbed 20 rebounds and had eight assists to lead the Cavaliers past the Nets.

The Cavs will play the two-time defending champion Chicago Bulls in the Eastern Conference semifinals beginning Tuesday in Chicago.

In New York, Patrick Ewing scored 33 points Sunday as the New York Knicks posted a 111-95 victory over the Charlotte Hornets in the first game of the National Basketball Association



Suns' star Charles Barkley

chatting with a referee Eastern Conference semi-finals.

The Hornets, in the play-offs for the first time in their five-year history, led most of the game, but they were hurt by the absence for much of the game of All-Star Larry Johnson.

## Van Basten guides AC Milan back to winning ways

PARIS (AFP) — There was no room for error this weekend as Europe's top clubs came under increasing pressures as they continued to chase their respective league titles.

Everyone was all too aware that the slightest mistake could prove fatal.

While Marco Van Basten tried to help AC Milan recover their winning ways in Italy, and Marseille continued to fend off the challenge of Paris St. Germain in France — Spanish legends Real Madrid dropped what could prove to be a vital point in their local derby match with Rayo Vallecano, and Dutch hopefuls Feyenoord fell apart against Ajax leaving PSV Eindhoven a clear run at the title.

In Germany Werder Bremen beat UEFA Cup finalists Borussia Dortmund 1-0 and joined Bayern Munich on top of the table with just four matches left to play. Bayern cracked and were held to a 0-0 draw by lowly Nuremberg.

Marco Van Basten, starting his first match for AC Milan since December 13, scored one of his side's three goals at Ancona in a result which virtually assured the Italian pacemakers of retaining the Italian title.

Van Basten's Dutch team-mate Frank Rijkaard opened the scoring after 20 minutes before the European "player of the year" marked his return with a superb header, seven minutes before the break.

An own-goal by the Czech Milos Gionex just after half-time made it 3-0 and it was left to Sebastiano Vecchiola to score a consolation goal for the home side just before the hour.

Internazionale, who have cut the gap at the top from 11 to four points in recent weeks, kept up the pressure with a 2-0 defeat of Lazio.

The Uruguayan Ruben Sosa, who is expected to make way for Holland's Dennis Bergkamp next season, opened the scoring with his 17th goal of the season and Salvatore "Pato" Schillaci added the second after 39 minutes.

Roberto Baggio's outstanding run of form continued with a hat-trick in a 4-2 for Juventus over Foggia.

In the Netherlands, Ajax gave their old rivals PSV Eindhoven a helping hand on their way to a third consecutive Dutch Championship by destroying Feyenoord 5-2.

Three goals in the first half-hour put Ajax in control of the match and could have dealt a fatal blow to Feyenoord's title hopes.

With four games remaining Feyenoord are now one point behind PSV who have a game in hand. A 36th minute goal from Romania's George Popescu and an own-goal just before half-time gave PSV a comfortable 2-0 win over Deventer Go Ahead Eagles.

Real Madrid's 1-1 draw could also prove to be a deadly blow to their title hopes. The result enabled rivals Barcelona to move one point clear after an impressive 4-1 home victory against first division strugglers Cadiz.

Barcelona made no mistakes against Cadiz. Stoichkov scored his first goal in over two months in the 23rd minute while Barcelona's other scorers were Beguiristain (45), Bascro (60) and Koeman (88-pen).

## Mexico 1st to qualify for World Cup

TORONTO (AP) — "Mexico, Mexico, rah, rah, rah."

A crowd of jubilant Mexicans created a pedestrian jam across the street from varsity stadium Sunday afternoon, chanting and waving flags in celebration of a 2-1 victory by their country's national soccer team over Canada that clinched a World Cup berth.

Francisco Cruz, sent in as a substitute in the 60th minute, drilled home a low shot with five minutes remaining, only five minutes after he laid sprawled on the ground from a collision with Canadian goalkeeper Craig Forrest.

"When I was told to go into the game one of the coaches told me, 'it is there, get into the game and score,' and I did it," a happy Cruz said through an interpreter

in a champagne-soaked Mexican dressing room.

The teams traded first-half goals: Alex Bouniey for Canada and Hugo Sanchez for Mexico.

Seven yellow cards came out in the first half.

The victory, in front of 20,000 spectators, made Mexico the first team to clinch a berth in the World Cup finals, defending champion Germany and the host United States get in automatically.

It gave Mexico a 5-0-1 record in the final round of Concacaf qualifying, three points ahead of Canada and even further ahead of El Salvador and Honduras.

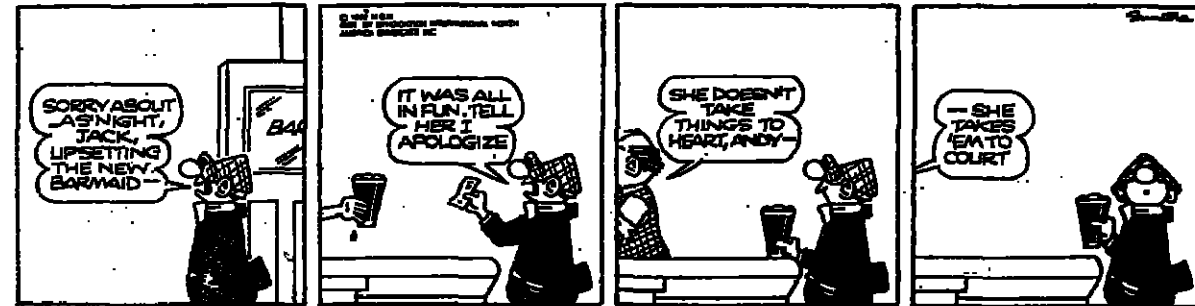
The berth is Mexico's 10th trip to the World Cup, but their first since 1986 when, playing at home, it advanced all the way to the quarterfinals.

It didn't make the 1990 World Cup because it was barred for using an overage player in a youth tournament.

### Peanuts



### Andy Capp



### Mutt'n'Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY MAY 11, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A good day for quick action and putting into operation decisions that are vital to your progress. You can also further your career through social channels and have a heck of a good time in the process.

**ARIES:** March 21 to April 19 All kinds of interesting behind the scenes conferences with any members of your family can yield excellent results so get together amicably.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You can join today with friends, acquaintances and usual associates in whatever joint activities requiring a harmonious approach between you and them.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Depend upon one who is experienced in property matters to give you answers that can help you to have more of this world's goods with ease.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Look for those various new outlets by which you can make your own intentions more on actual working reality and put in motion right away.

**LEO:** (July 22 August 21) A private meeting with one who is expert in business interests that are important to you is available and willing to give you the benefit of experience.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Close companions, partners and associates are willing to go

along with a plan you have in mind if you present it from its biggest scope of action.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Take some time out to find out just what one who understands homes would do to lighten and brighten up your environmental surroundings.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Consider well the various pleasures you like and how they can be approached from a new angle so they can be even more enjoyable in the future.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) If you give your home members a little more affection and some compliments on the good things that they do, much greater accord will be present.

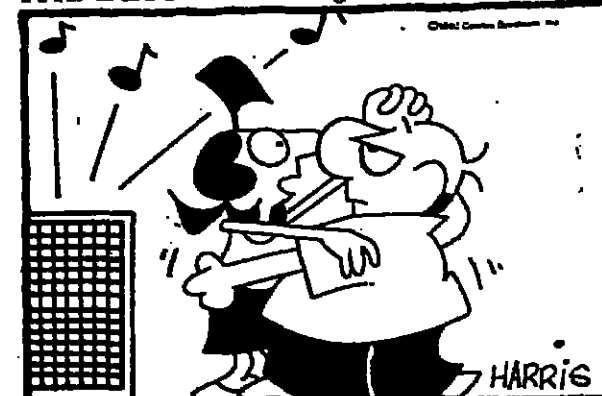
**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) You need to be more communicative as to your real wishes and points of view with a partner who gets pretty emotional without full knowledge of circumstances.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) If you adopt a new and more efficient schedule where your daily occupation is concerned you will find that your bank account will reflect that change.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Consider well the good times you like for what you can do today can have a profound bearing upon the enjoyments you have in the days ahead for you.

## THE BETTER HALF

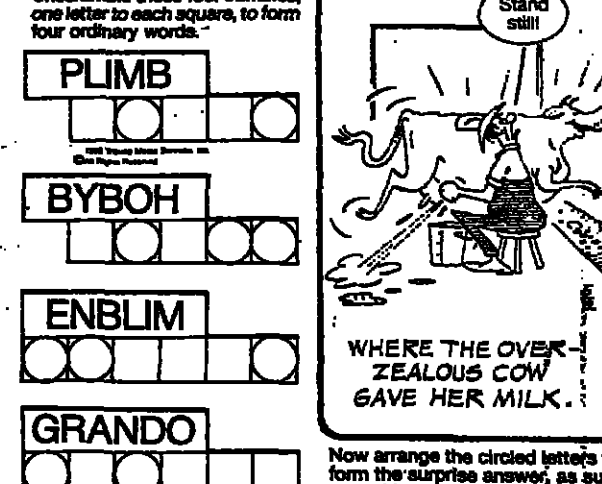
By Harris



"I'm not saying you're dull, Stanley...but who else would slow-dance to 'Great Balls of Fire'?"

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



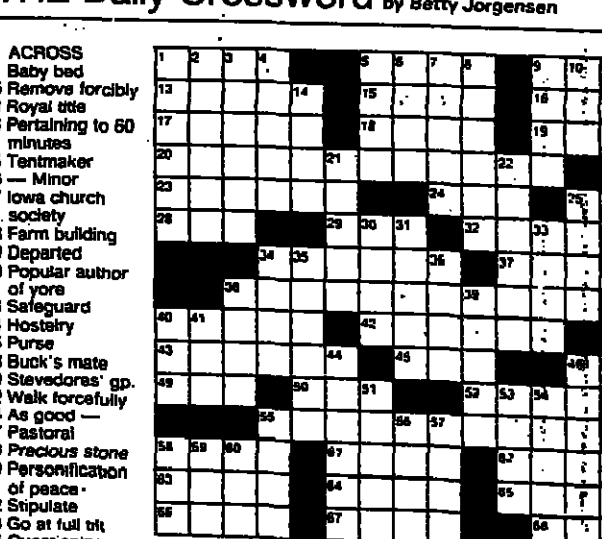
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: C O O L E T H E " C O O L E T H E "

Yesterday's Jumbles: MEALY GUESS PURIFY ENTAIL

Answer: We close our eyes to this—SLEEP

## THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen



©1993 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH  
© 1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### FINESSERS' PARADISE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 7 6  
♥ 8 6  
♦ 5 4 3 2  
♣ K Q J 5

**WEST**  
♠ Q 9 2  
♥ K J 3  
♦ A 10 8  
♣ 9 8 7 3

**EAST**  
♠ 10 6 4 3  
♥ 10 7 5 4 2  
♦ Q J 9 6  
♣ Void

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K J  
♥ A Q 9  
♦ K 7  
♣ A 10 6 2

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠  
If there is a Garden of Eden for finessers, they will constantly be dealt hands such as South's with finesses in three suits—and all will work. Unfortunately, life is not quite so idyllic. This hand from Mexico's Team Trials, reported by Dr. George Rosenkranz, is almost too vivid an illustration.

Even those using a 22-24 range

for a two-no-trump opening bid should take that action with the South hand—the first club more than compensates for the missing one point. North's raise to game is automatic.

At one table declarer had a hard-luck story to tell. The first trick was won in dummy and a spade to the jack lost to the queen. Undaunted, declarer won the club return on the table and tried a heart to the queen—still unfortunate. Declarer used dummy's third club entry for a diamond to the king. That enabled the defenders to take four diamond tricks and one in each major for a two-trick set.

When Alicia Duran, whose team went on to win the event, sat South, she won the same opening club lead and immediately ended on the table. Then came a low heart to the nine—a textbook play. West could win the trick cheaply, but was employed.

No matter which suit West selected to return it would present declarer with the game-going trick.

Once again, Oscar Wilde's epigram holds true: Life imitates Art.







## Bosnian 'allies' clash again; Serbia slams door on Karadzic

SARAJEVO (R) — Muslim and Croat forces clashed in Mostar for the second straight day Monday as smoke from fires sparked by the fighting drifted over the ancient southwest Bosnian city.

A United Nations spokesman said the battles between the erstwhile allies were a cause of grave concern as there was a danger the fighting could spread to other areas of central Bosnia.

Belgrade meanwhile stepped up pressure on the Bosnian Serbs to accept an international peace plan for Bosnia by banning senior Radovan Karadzic, from crossing the frontier into Serbia.

"We are very sad about that decision of Yugoslavia," Dr. Karadzic told Reuters Television. "We know that they are squeezed and blackmailed but still it's too strong a measure."

In a report from the besieged town of Zepa, U.N. military observers said thousands of people had fled the eastern Bosnian enclave after several days of bombardment by the Bosnian Serbs, leaving only 50 people in the town.

Zepa's original population of 6,000 was swollen to an estimated 30,000 by an influx of refugees from other Muslim areas in the region that have been rolled up by advancing Serb forces.

U.N. Protection Force spokesman Commander Barry Frewer, giving details of what the observers had found, said: "The township itself is almost deserted. The majority of the houses have been badly damaged."

He added: "There has been heavy fighting, heavy shelling, people have fled into the hills."

John MacMillan, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner

for Refugees, said: "If the situation as reported in Zepa is correct then it is a human catastrophe of the greatest magnitude."

"If there are only 50 people wandering around in a town which had 6,000 people then it boggles the mind what will be necessary to provide them with humanitarian aid."

The observers' report, relayed by U.N. spokesman Commander Frewer, was the first independent confirmation of Muslim claims that Zepa came under fierce Serb shelling from last Tuesday.

The Bosnian Serb and Muslim-led government army agreed on Saturday to declare Zepa and another enclave, Srebrenica, demilitarised areas.

The commanders also signed a general ceasefire for their forces in Bosnia. The truce appeared to be generally holding Monday, with only 12 artillery impacts recorded in Sarajevo by the United Nations Protection Force.

That agreement did not include the Bosnian Croats, whom the U.N. blamed for starting the latest bout of close-quarter fighting with Muslim forces in Mostar Sunday.

The Bosnian Croat Forces (HVO) rounded up about 400 Muslims from the town and were holding them prisoner in a village outside Mostar, a U.N. spokesman said.

Muslim-controlled Sarajevo Radio, which accused the HVO of "ethnic cleansing" in the city, also reported that the Bosnian government had called on all able-bodied men to join its forces in Mostar.

Croatia, which rejects suggestions that it is involved in the war in neighbouring Bosnia, called on

Croat and Muslim leaders to stop the fighting, which breached a Muslim-Croat ceasefire agreement reached in Zagreb two weeks ago.

"I condemn most sharply the armed conflicts between Muslims and Croats, and call on you to make every effort to bring them to an end," said Croatian President Franjo Tudjman in a letter to Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban.

The U.N. said it was worried the Mostar fighting could upset a fragile Muslim-Croat truce in nearby central Bosnia.

"This is of the gravest concern," said Commander Frewer. "If it continues it has the potential to destabilise our previous ceasefire. It has the potential, if not checked, of creeping northwards into central Bosnia."

The public slap in the face delivered to Dr. Karadzic by Serbian-led Yugoslavia appeared to be a direct retaliation for Dr. Karadzic's refusal to bow to pressure from Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to sign the Bosnian peace plan.

By barring him from entry into neighbouring Serbia, Mr. Milosevic appeared to have effectively confined Dr. Karadzic within his self-declared rebel Serb Republic.

European Community (EC) foreign ministers met Monday to discuss how to pressure Bosnian Serbs into accepting an international peace plan that would end the 13-month-old war, including the possible use of force.

But a new ceasefire pact and renewed fighting between Croats and Muslims have taken some of the urgency from discussions ab-

out whether the West should use limited military force such as air strikes in Bosnia.

International mediator Lord Owen, one of the chief architects of the peace plan, said it was too early to say whether Serbia would honour a pledge to cut off supplies to the Bosnian Serbs who rejected the plan last week.

But he said there were signs that Serbia was no longer trying to ride what he called "the dangerous tiger of nationalism" and that the West should focus more on the peace plan than on the debate about military intervention.

"You don't want military action to be seen as a solution to the problem. It is not," he told reporters before briefing the 12 EC nations.

EC ministers arriving for the meeting said they hoped the new U.N.-brokered ceasefire between government forces and the Bosnian Serbs, to which the Croats were not party, would hold.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told reporters the West was still not ruling out any options, including that of military action, to try and force an end to the war.

But he said efforts should now focus on making sure Serbia kept its promise to cut off vital supplies from the Bosnian Serbs after their rejection last week of the U.N.-sponsored peace plan that would divide Bosnia into 10 regions.

"The emphasis now is on pressure on the Bosnian Serbs via Serbia," Mr. Hurd said.

"We have to test that... we have to be sure that (Serbian President Slobodan) Milosevic is applying the pressure."



Sarajevo's Muslim children offer flowers to a young Ukrainian soldier to express their gratitude for protecting the besieged town of Zepa for which he is about to depart (AFP photo)

## Cambodia royalists attack Khmer Rouge

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) — Royalist Cambodian guerrillas and the hardline Khmer Rouge, long-time allies in their country's civil war, exchanged artillery fire over the weekend in the northwest, U.N. officials said Monday.

The fighting was apparently prompted by the killing of a Japanese police officer by Khmer Rouge guerrillas in a zone nominally controlled by the monarchist forces on May 4, they said.

A senior officer at the headquarters of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) said it appeared that guerrillas of ANKI (the Royalist Army for an Independent Kampuchea) had fired the first shots.

The artillery exchanges took place in Ampil district of Banteay Meanchey province close to the Thai border about 370 kilometres west of the capital Phnom Penh.

"It would appear that it was after the ambush of the Japanese and Dutch that they (the guerrilla factions) fell out of accord," a U.N. official said.

The Japanese policeman was killed when the Khmer Rouge attacked a U.N. convoy in the guerrilla zone. Two Japanese police officers and five Dutch marine commandos were wounded.

ANKI and the Khmer Rouge

were allied, albeit sometimes uneasily, throughout the 13 year civil war which ended in 1991 when all four rival factions signed a U.N.-sponsored peace agreement.

The accord paved the way for the deployment of the 22,000-strong UNTAC force to organise elections scheduled for May 23-27.

The Khmer Rouge is rejecting participation in the elections saying they will serve only to legitimise the Hanoi-installed Phnom Penh government, its sworn enemy.

The radical guerrilla group has vowed to use violence to disrupt the poll.

The guerrillas have staged attacks in northwest, central, southern and eastern provinces in the past week.

Soldiers from the Pakistan peacekeeping contingent killed at least two Khmer Rouge attackers and wounded several others involved in an assault on their position at Chom Kasang in far north Preah Vihear province Saturday.

"The attackers first attacked at 5 a.m. using mortars and small arms. The peacekeepers returned fire forcing their assailants to withdraw," a U.N. spokesman said.

He said two subsequent Khmer

Rouge attacks were repulsed and that one peacekeeper was lightly wounded by shrapnel in the back.

U.N. buildings and vehicles were damaged during the attack, he said.

Meanwhile, a Japanese cabinet minister asked the U.N. mission chief Monday for increased security for Japanese peacekeepers, some of whom want to be withdrawn in the face of escalating violence.

The U.N. Chief, Yasushi Akashi, who is also Japanese, told reporters, "the outcome is very good" after nearly two hours of talks with Home Affairs Minister Keijiro Murata.

U.N. officials have attempted to play down Mr. Murata's visit as it clearly indicates Japan is questioning the U.N. mission's ability to protect its members during U.N.-sponsored elections.

In Tokyo, Defence Minister Toshio Nakayama said Monday he may order Japanese troops to withdraw from Cambodia if violence continues after U.N.-sponsored elections scheduled for late May.

Mr. Nakayama told a news conference an elected government in Cambodia would not necessarily bring an end to the attacks in which two Japanese, a civilian volunteer and a police officer, have died.

## COLUMN

### Politicians who lost get counselling

CANBERRA (AP) — Unhappy politicians voted out of office here are seeking psychological help. The Association of Former Members of the Parliament of Australia said Monday it has hired a sports psychologist for counselling. "It is not easy to adjust after the hectic life of long hours, travel and dedication to public duty," said Tony Lamb, secretary of the association. Sports psychologist Jeffrey Bond said a politician who loses at the polls can suffer as much as a top athlete who loses at the Olympics. "They're both high achievers," he said. "They're very driven people... it can be quite a blow." Voters kicked out 17 politicians from the 222-member parliament in a March 13 general election. Another 18 retired before voting started.

### Malaysian deputy prime minister's car stolen

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — A hitchhiker has stolen Deputy Prime Minister Ghafor Baba's official Mercedes Benz. Kuala Lumpur's police chief said, Chief Henry Chin said Mr. Ghafor's driver reported that when he was caught in a traffic jam last Friday, a man asked for a lift. The driver later stopped at a bank to cash a check, leaving the man in the car and the engine running. Chief Chin said. When the driver came out of the bank, the car had disappeared, the police chief said. He said police were looking for the man and the car.

### House burns while teenagers play computer games

NORTH TIDWORTH, England (R) — Two teenager British brothers were so absorbed in their computer game that they failed to notice their house was on fire, the family said. Wayne Turner, 19, and his 17-year-old brother James left their toast to burn under a grill while they played with the game. A fire broke out and spread to most of the lower floor of their house in southwestern England. "I felt like throwing the game out of the window but I didn't have any windows left," their mother, Susan Turner, told reporters.

### English punter wins \$790,000 in record bet

LONDON (R) — An English businessman won £500,000 (\$790,000) in a world record soccer bet Saturday night after Cardiff clinched promotion from Division three. Jimmy Wright, a 77-year-old coach firm owner, scooped his fortune after laying a £1,000 (\$1,580) bet with a bookmaker in August predicting Cardiff, Stoke and Newcastle would win their respective English League titles. Newcastle and Stoke had already secured promotion from division one and two respectively, and Cardiff obliged with a 3-0 win at Scunthorpe.

### Immigrant resorts to 'fax terrorism' in Sweden

STOCKHOLM (R) — A man seeking Swedish citizenship resorted to what police called "fax terrorism" in a desperate attempt to bring his case to the attention of immigration authorities — and finally got his papers. "I sent fax after fax, kilo after kilo of paper so no one could get through," said Nils Nilsson, a police spokesman in Norrköping, where the immigration board is located. The faxes said: "Director-general, get a move on your workers." He has been charged with conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace, police said. He was later granted citizenship.

### Parents charged over baby in microwave

PITTSBURGH (R) — A 7-week-old baby was "nuked" in a microwave oven for two seconds but suffered no ill effects, a newspaper reported Friday. The child's parents were charged with neglect. "The kid is fine. They're making a big deal out of nothing," the father, Timothy Ketterman, 22, was quoted as saying by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. The baby was placed in the microwave by the infant's 14-year-old cousin, who said he did it as a joke. He was charged with reckless endangerment and was sent to a psychiatric clinic. The incident took place on April 21, but was not reported to the police until May 1.

## Little cheer as Mitterrand marks 12 years in power

PARIS (R) — When French President Francois Mitterrand took power exactly 12 years ago, he told his outgoing predecessor Valéry Giscard d'Estaing at their handover: "Your only mistake was to run again."

Mr. Mitterrand may now wish he had heeded his own advice. Five years into his second seven-year term, his public standing has never been lower. He is sharing power with a hostile conservative government and one of his oldest allies, former Prime Minister Pierre Berégovoy, has just killed himself.

There was no talk of celebration Monday, the 12th anniversary of the watershed election which swept Mr. Mitterrand to power and heralded the start of a long but now tarnished period of Socialist rule after 23 years of conservatism.

The 76-year-old president was expected to mark the occasion

only with a discreet dinner with close associates.

The main event of the day, an emergency budget being announced by new Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, was being portrayed in the press as an "in-voice" listing the shortcomings of the Socialist's economic policy.

Although Mr. Balladur is said by economists to have as little room for manoeuvre as his predecessor Mr. Berégovoy in bringing down France's yawning budget and social-security fund deficits, he can lean on soaring popularity — currently around 70 per cent — to push through unpopular measures like tax increases.

Mr. Mitterrand's popularity, by contrast, was put at around 34 per cent in a poll published in last weekend's Figaro magazine.

Mr. Berégovoy's suicide on May 1, coming less than five weeks after the Socialists went

down to humiliating electoral defeat against the centre-right, has cast a long shadow over the end of the Mitterrand era.

"Berégovoy's death... has put the end of his tenure under a mourning cloud," said the news magazine Le Point this week.

The president's record has already been marred by Socialist Party corruption scandals and a perceived loss of touch in both domestic and foreign policy. He also has prostate cancer.

Mr. Mitterrand won widespread respect for a powerful funeral oration for Mr. Berégovoy, delivered with an unusually demonstrative mixture of tears and anger. But he also came under fire for an indirect attack on the press.

He said Mr. Berégovoy's honour, tarnished by media reports of a large interest-free loan he had taken from a financier later

charged with insider trading, had been "thrown to the dogs."

The media has fought back vigorously, saying they had merely reported the facts while Mr. Berégovoy's associates appeared to have left him in the lurch after the elections.

Mr. Mitterrand himself has been dogged by reports, which his office has neither confirmed nor denied, that he refused to return Mr. Berégovoy's calls until two days before his death.

The fight for the presidential succession in 1995 has begun in earnest, with Mr. Mitterrand's longtime conservative rival Jacques Chirac coveting confidence as he tours the country.

"I feel completely at ease with myself," Mr. Chirac told the newspaper Le Figaro in an interview published Monday. It is a feeling Mr. Mitterrand must envy.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Russian defence minister in Turkey

ANKARA (AP) — The Russian Defence Minister arrived Monday for a five-day stop and the first formal visit in two centuries by an official from Russia, a traditional foe of Turkey. Turkey's Defence Minister, Nevzat Ayaz, said the countries would sign a military cooperation agreement under a broader accord reached a year ago. He said he and his Russian counterpart, Pavel Grachev, also would discuss the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict and the strife between Bosnian Serbs and Muslims. "We aim to promote ties with every country which rejects aggression as a policy... and in this context, Turkey is a country to which we attach special importance," Mr. Grachev said at the airport. Turkey, which has close ethnic bonds with Azerbaijan, has recently launched a joint initiative with the United States and Russia to end the five-year conflict between its Caucasian neighbours over the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh. It has also supported U.S. calls for military intervention to end the Serb attacks on Turkey's fellow Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

### Corsica rocked by 6 blasts

AJACCIO, France (AP) — Six bomb explosions rocked Corsica early Monday, causing extensive damage to offices of the regional administration and homes belonging to island politicians, police said. No one was hurt in the attacks, but the junior prefect (governor) was in his offices in Sartene, southern Corsica, when while three explosions ripped through the building. Two villas belonging to Socialist politicians on the island were damaged in separate bombings, a restaurant and two homes belonging to nationalists from the French mainland were severely damaged in another explosion. Sources on the island said the attacks were not politically motivated and did not aim to send a message to the new centre-right government of Prime Minister Edouard Balladur.

### Twisters strike Texas

NEW YORK (AP) — Residents of an Oklahoma city neighbourhood watched helplessly as a flash flood swept a man and a young girl out of a car to their apparent deaths. A woman left behind drowned as water from a raging creek filled the automobile. "God, what could anybody do?" said one horrified bystander, Sandra Niles. "I wanted to jump in, but I knew if I did that would be the end of me." Violent storms that stretched across the southern plains over the weekend sent rivers and creeks spilling over their banks in Kansas and Oklahoma. Meanwhile, tornadoes smashed into the Dallas area Sunday, killing at least one person and injuring more than 60 others. In Suburban Wylie, 40 kilometres northeast of Dallas, the tornado cut through the town's business centre and forced the closure of a hospital. One person was found dead at a mobile home park, said city manager Steve Norwood.

### Success is near in transition — De Klerk

JOHANNESBURG (R) — President F. W. De Klerk said Monday South Africa was on the verge of a breakthrough in its transition to democracy. "I believe that our vision of a just, stable and prosperous South Africa will soon become a reality," he told a conference on cereal science in Pretoria. "We are on the brink of a breakthrough." He did not elaborate, but South Africa's main political players committed themselves Friday to holding the country's first all-race elections within 12 months. The govern-

ment, the African National Congress, the Inkatha Freedom Party and other groups participating in democracy negotiations adopted a declaration of intent saying they would agree broad constitutional principles within four weeks. Only two of the 26 delegations, the right-wing white Conservative Party and the tiny black homeland of Ciskei, opposed the declaration.

### 21 die in Bangkok toy factory fire

BANGKOK (AFP) — At least 21 people died and more than 100 were injured when fire swept through a Bangkok toy factory Monday, the state-run Thai News Agency said. Fire fighters were still trying to put out the blaze at the doll factory early evening, and until they did it was impossible to determine the exact number of casualties, a police officer said. An official at a local hospital said more than 100 factory workers, most of them women, were injured either by the fire or while jumping from windows of the four-storey building to escape the flames. A distraught survivor told a local radio station that she was working with about 800 people on the fourth floor of the building when the fire broke out mid afternoon. The factory collapsed during the blaze and rescue workers at the scene told reporters they were sure more bodies would be found in the rubble.

### Campbell leads in Canada leadership race

OTTAWA (R) — Canadian Defence Minister Kim Campbell has a commanding lead over her main rival Environment Minister Jean Charest in the race to succeed Brian Mulroney as Conservative Party and prime minister, a survey showed. As selection of delegates to a party convention closed at the weekend, the Canadian press news agency said Mr. Campbell had 44 per cent of the committed delegates and Mr. Charest 24 per cent. However, the survey showed another 27 per cent of the delegates were still undecided and could back either candidate at the convention that will pick Mr. Mulroney's successor on June 13 in Ottawa. "We are on target," Mr. Campbell's campaign spokesman Denis Boucher said in an interview. "We have sufficient delegates to win the Conservative leadership but we are not taking anything for granted."

### Indonesian envoy to Paris dies

PARIS (AFP) — Indonesia's ambassador to France, Dody Achdiat Tisna Amudjaja, has died in hospital after undergoing surgery, the Indonesian embassy said here Monday. Mr. Amudjaja, who had a heart condition, died last Wednesday. He had been under treatment in a German hospital, the embassy added. He had been posted in Paris since June 1989.

### 28 kidnappers, soldier killed in Philippines

BASILAN, Philippines (AP) — Government troops pursuing Muslims who had kidnapped a Spanish priest killed 28 in weekend clashes, officials said Monday. A soldier was also killed in one gun battle. The priest, the Rev. Bernardo Blanco, 65, of Zamora province in Spain, escaped last Wednesday after 48 days of captivity. The military then ordered a full-scale attack on the kidnappers. Mayor Leonardo Pioquinto of the capital town of Isabela on Basilan Island said 18 kidnappers were killed in a clash Friday in nearby Kapayawan town. Isabela is about 380 kilometres (235 miles) south of Manila. Another nine kidnappers were slain Sunday in another village in Kapayawan.

## Peru general charged with insubordination

LIMA (R) — Peru's highest military court has charged a general who fled the country with insubordination and other crimes for accusing the head of the armed forces of having links with a death squad.

The Supreme Council of Military Justice said General Rodolfo Robles had accused army chief General Nicolas Hermoza and other officers of committing "punishable and dishonourable acts without providing any proof whatsoever."

It said Gen. Robles, who fled to Argentina Friday, had known the council was investigating the disappearance of nine students and a professor last July but neglected to pass along related information to investigators.

Gen. Robles was charged with insubordination, insulting a superior, abuse of authority, falsehood, causing harm to the nation and desertion.

His two sons, both army officers who accompanied Gen. Robles to Buenos Aires after he claimed they were being threatened, were also charged with desertion.

In a television interview Saturday Gen. Robles reiterated explosive charges contained in a document handed to the press before he flew to Argentina Friday.

He charged that Gen. Hermoza was aware that an army intelli-

gence unit, coordinated by National Intelligence Service officer Vladimiro Montesinos, was carrying out operations involving rights abuses.

He said the alleged death squad had killed nine students and a professor at a university last July and 14 people at a fundraising party in Lima in November 1991.

Neither Gen. Hermoza nor Gen. Montesinos, who rarely appears in public, have commented on the charges. But on Thursday the army said it would send the document to the military court "despite the falsehoods of the charges it contains."

Gen. Robles said he learned of the killings in January and only made the information public when he realised there would be no attempt at a serious investigation by the military.

"I am denouncing this before international public opinion and if necessary I will go the United States or wherever," he said, when asked if he would testify before the U.S. Congress.

The United States has focused on the November 1991 killings as well as eight other human rights cases, saying it would like to see the cases thoroughly investigated before providing further economic aid to Peru.

Well-informed diplomats have spoken of an unwillingness by the

Peruvian government to press ahead with the probe.

Meanwhile the mothers of two Peruvian journalists detained on terrorism charges joined five others in their fifth day of a hunger strike Sunday to demand the release of eight detained journalists.

The mothers of Rosa Neyra and Jose Alvarez, two journalists who worked for the now-defunct newspaper Cambio, began the strike sponsored by the Journalists Guild Sunday, Guild Dean Miguel Angel Calderon said.

Three of the strikers had been taken to local clinics at the weekend due to their fragile health, he said.

"Peru's judiciary, which has yet to resolve the case of the journalists, will be held responsible for the health of the strikers," he said.

President Alberto Fujimori at the weekend reiterated his belief that Danilo Quijano, a journalist for La Republica newspaper condemned last month on terrorism charges, is innocent.

But he said the case is in the hands of the courts.

All of the eight have been linked by anti-terrorism police to the pro-Chiban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement.

The hunger strikers also called for full press freedom and the end to what they called harassment of journalists and media outlets.



# Features

## Mujahedeen in standoff on strategic Salang Highway

**QARABAGH, Afghanistan** (AFP) — Only the turret of the olive-green Soviet-made BMP-1 armoured fighting vehicle protrudes above ground level, with its menacing cannon barrel pointing due north towards a faintly visible bunker.

"That's the enemy!" snarls a turbaned guerrilla of the Hezb-e-Islami Mujahedeen faction led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the country's prime minister designate.

The guerrilla is clutching a Kalashnikov assault rifle attached with a rare night-vision scope, and like the rest of his squad at this frontline checkpoint, he carries spare AK-47 magazines and hand grenades in elaborate hand-tooled leather pouches strung around his chest.

These Hezb are based in Qarabagh, a village about 45 kilometres north of the Afghan capital Kabul, and their enemy are Mujahedeen of Jamiat-e-Islami, dug-in just two kilometres up this, the strategic Salang Highway.

From the east, west and south the roads leading into Kabul are blocked by Hezb commanders, preventing essential supplies from reaching the capital, but here in the north, due to pre-

emptive measures by Ahmad Shah Masood, the Jamiat guerrilla turned defence minister, Hezb has been largely neutralised.

The squabble between Mr. Hekmatyar and Mr. Masood is a deep-rooted one, pre-dating the Mujahedeen April 1992 victory over the Moscow-backed Afghan communist regime.

But Mr. Hekmatyar is punishing Kabul with this blockade because of the rejection of his cabinet proposals by the Afghan president and Jamiat leader, Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Qarabagh is the headquarters of Hezb commander Abdul Karim Abed, known as Karim Khan, whom Defence Ministry officials claim is among the 7,000 Hezb Mujahedeen who recently defected to the Jamiat side.

Most of this number are alleged to come from the neighbouring provinces of Parwan and Kapisa but the Hezb sniper at the BMP-1 checkpoint dismisses these claims as "propaganda."

"We lost between 400-700 only, and many of these who were bought off have snatched back to our side again," the Hezb gunman said.

"Karim has not joined Jamiat," he added, "if he had this road would be open for govern-

ment convoys."

It is not clear why non-military transport freely ply the Salang Highway connecting the northern capitals Mazar-e-Sharif, Kunduz and Pul-e-Khumri with Kabul, but some Hezb commanders on the roadside indicated they were not strong enough to effect a complete blockade.

But the free passage of civilian vehicles is not without cost. Once infamous for its highway robbers, the stretch of road be-

tween Qarabagh and Kabul is now relatively safe, apparently due to the example set by Mr. Masood's punitive measures against Hezb in Parwan-Kapisa.

But elsewhere, even in Jamiat-controlled stretches of the Salang Highway, local Mujahedeen commanders still exact a "toll" from passing vehicles.

From the Jamiat checkpoint facing the Hezb frontline at Qarabagh, and from both Hezb and Jamiat groups which share con-

trol of the village of Sarai Khoja a few kilometres (miles) to the south, one truck driver was obliged to pay the equivalent sums of \$50 and \$90 respectively to the guards.

Perhaps the people of Sarai Khoja need some special source of income, as their village, formerly a district headquarters with a thriving bazaar fed from the profits of the extensive surrounding vineyards, is now a bombed-out shell.



### FOR CITROËN CARS OWNERS

To ensure better service, we have delegated an expert from Citroën France to check your car with the latest technical equipment. If you are the owner of a Citroën car, please contact us by phone or come in person to our maintenance center to set an appointment.

**DIRANI CITROËN**  
DRIVE SAFELY WITH CITROËN

**SOLE AGENTS & DISTRIBUTORS:** NABIL & BASSAM DIRANI AUTO TRADING CO. MAINTENANCE & SPARE PARTS, WADI SEER, INDUSTRIAL AREA, TEL 713100



### the american language center

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS  
12 JUNE - 3 AUGUST SESSION

- Adult, afternoon and evening courses  
General English Skills, TOEFL Preparation, Conversation 2, Professional Communication, Advanced Academic Study Skills/Writing, Levels 1-6, Level 6, Level 7, Level 7, Level 8
  - Ages 12-17, morning courses  
General English Skills, TOEFL Preparation, Levels 1-4
  - Women, two weeks of morning Conversation classes  
June 12 - June 23 and/or July 3 - July 14
- Placement Tests:  
New students should register for a placement test:  
May 12, May 19, or June 6.  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.;  
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Please call 659-859 for more information.

## Turino Flat.O.Tel

Sweifiyeh - Amman



**DISCOVER**  
**Turino**  
FLAT. O. Tel  
Sweifiyeh



Then  
**Follow our ads**  
Serviced flats to new International standards

Fully serviced flats in grand hotel style!

Opening soon Opening soon Opening soon Opening soon Opening soon

### ROYAL JORDANIAN

Royal Jordanian is seeking to employ young, ambitious and hardworking individuals to work in its business establishments in and outside Jordan. Interested candidates must meet the following pre-requisites:

- Must have a B.A. degree in business administration or related discipline. An MBA in business administration or related area is preferred. E.G. management, economics, marketing, and finance.
- Must be (27) years of age or less.
- Proficiency in English is a must and knowledge of other languages is an asset.
- Medically fit.

Only qualified Jordanian candidates need to apply not later than end of May 1993:

**Royal Jordanian,  
Recruitment Section,  
P.O.Box (302)  
Amman - Jordan**

**Turino**  
Sweifiyeh  
FLAT. O. TEL  
RESTAURANT  
661293  
ITALIAN CUISINE  
Cocktail - Piano Bar  
Opening Soon

**Kashmir**  
RESTAURANT  
FIRST CLASS INDIAN  
RESTAURANT  
Special Executive Lunches  
Take away service  
available  
Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm  
7:30-11:30 pm  
After the Philadelphia Hotel  
Towards 3rd circle  
Tel: 659519 659520

**JORDAN MARKET PLACE**  
JORDAN MARKET PLACE  
JORDAN MARKET PLACE

**DANZAS**  
INTERNATIONAL DOOR TO DOOR REMOVALS  
GERMAN DRIVERS - AIR - RIDDEN REMOVAL TRUCKS  
YOUR REGULAR LINK TO AND FROM EUROPE  
SPECIALISTS FOR DIPLOMATIC REMOVALS  
IN THE NEAR EAST  
FOR DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
**EASTERN SERVICES**  
OFFICIAL DANZAS AGENT IN JORDAN  
TEL : 621 775 TLX : 23023 FAX : 656 270  
PEACE BUILDING - JABAL LWEIBDEH  
AMMAN - JORDAN

**THE PROFESSIONALS**  
ALWAYS CHOOSE  
THE RELIABLE  
PACKING, AIR FREIGHT  
FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR  
SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS  
CLEARANCE, TICKETS  
AND RESERVATIONS.  
**AMIN KAWAR & SONS**  
TEL: 604976 604996  
P.O. BOX 7806  
AMMAN

**CROWN INTL. EST.**  
Packing, shipping  
Forwarding, storage  
worldwide Removals.  
Air, Sea and Land  
TEL: 66 40 90  
FAX: 62 58 52  
POST: 92 64 87  
Amman-Jordan

**TIME FASHIONS**  
MEN'S WEAR  
AMRA HOTEL  
SHOPPING AREA  
Tel: 813219

**STUDIO HAIG**  
Professional Quality in  
1 Hour Service  
Develop your colour film at  
our shop and get:  
• JUMBO photo  
size 30% larger  
• Free enlarge-  
ment 20 x 30 cm.  
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays  
Bank, Phone: 604042  
Sweifiyeh tel: 823891

**4 RENT & SALE**  
Many villas and apart-  
ments are available for  
rent and sale, furnished  
or unfurnished.  
Also many plots of land  
are available for sale.  
For further details,  
please call:  
**Abdoun Real Estate**  
Tel: 810605/810509  
Fax: 810520

**AVIS**  
We try harder.  
**SAS**  
699-420

**Hisham International Tours**  
"THE RELIABLE NAME IN JORDAN"  
Book now & Join  
our classy summer trips  
(8) days (7) nights  
★ Istanbul \$800 H/B & tours  
★ Antalya \$ 800 H/B  
★ Turkish Riviera \$800 H/B  
★ Cyprus \$770 B/B  
★ All in 5 star INTL HTLS  
Specialists in  
Tailor-made  
Outgoing Tours  
& Hotel reservations at  
International &  
Luxury Hotels in  
Turkey, Cyprus  
& Egypt  
Our first class services & moderate prices  
make sense for leisure & business travellers  
Tel: 698180/698181, Fax 689307

**红房子餐厅**  
120  
Authentic  
Chinese dishes,  
from all great re-  
gional cuisines  
styles of China.  
Prepared by our  
Chinese chefs  
Open daily for  
lunch & dinner  
Take away service  
Jabal Al Hussien  
Ministry of Trade  
& Industrial Rd.  
Tel. 663094

**MANDARIN RESTAURANT**  
Special Chinese Foods  
Skilled Chinese Chefs  
Open 12:30-3:30 & 6:00-11:30 daily  
Take away is available  
Wadi Saqra Road  
near Philadelphia Hotel  
Tel. 661822, Amman

**PEKING RESTAURANT**  
AUTHENTIC  
CHINESE  
CUISINE  
elegant  
colorful atmosphere  
moderate prices  
shmeisani tel 604042  
(now open daily)

**CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
Mecca Street, Yarmouk  
Engineers' Housing  
Estate, near Kilo  
Supermarket  
Mongolian Barbeque for  
Lunch Friday only  
Tel: 818214  
Come and taste our  
specialties  
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30  
p.m.  
6:30 - Midnight

**RESTAURANT CHINA**  
The first & best  
Chinese Restaurant  
in Jordan  
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near  
Ahliah Girls School  
Take away is available  
Open daily 12:00-3:30  
p.m.  
7:00 - Midnight  
Tel. 638968

**It's Jollibee GOOD**  
Fast Food Restaurant

**The Inn Place to be..**  
**Rozeha**  
Restaurant  
"homely and intimate"  
\*Open air terrace.  
\*Round table for 12-18  
guests.  
\*Open 7 days a week  
Tel 613572  
2nd circle - Jabal Amman.  
Tel. 630571 Fax. 630572

A Restaurant With  
An Artistic Ambiance  
**Valentino**  
RESTAURANT  
JABAL AMMAN FIRST CIRCLE  
OPPOSITE THE BEACH ELEGANT TEL. 824677

The First Class Hotel in  
Amman that has a  
Kitchenette in every room...  
"Satellite T.V. Reception"  
**DAROTEL**  
Amman - Tel. 668193  
P.O.Box 9403 - Fax 62434  
Telex 23888 DAROTEL JO  
Ideal Residence For  
Expatriates and  
Businessmen

**Parade**  
Italian Restaurant  
Daily  
BUSINESS LUNCH  
Abdoun / Near Orthodox Club  
Circle - Jordan Supermarket  
Building, 2nd Floor  
Tel : 824677

**FORTE GRAND**  
AMMAN  
China Town  
At The Forte Grand Amman  
An exquisite new menu at special prices  
For your reservation please call  
674111 Ext 6328 or 674295  
CHINA TOWN

**Bonita**  
Restaurant & Tapas Bar  
International Dishes  
& Spanish Specialities  
Open Lunch & Dinner  
Jabal Amman - 2nd Circle  
For Reservation Tel 65900-1

**KATTAN**  
Candy  
Chocolates  
Gifts  
Seventh Circle  
Opposite Ramada Hotel  
Tel. 825423



# U.N. report: Palestinian land is deteriorating

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even if Palestinians get their land occupied by Israel, they will have a homeland which is falling apart, according to a U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) report issued Monday.

While Israelis and Arabs are holding peace talks here over the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the economy of the two areas is deteriorating. The UNDP report said their gross domestic product has decreased each year since 1988 and per capita income is just over \$1,000, ten times less than Israel.

Air, soil and water are increasingly polluted, water sources are drying up and turning salty, and sewage and garbage are serious health problems.

"The land is being threatened by very serious environmental damage," said the report, prepared for UNDP by a team of experts who visited in late 1992. UNDP official John Oliver, who organised the independent mission headed by a former Dutch U.N. Ambassador, said that to think of what the Palestinians will face — if and when they get the territories as their state — "fills us with dread."

The Gaza Strip relies for water on an underground aquifer. "Gaza's aquifer is being severely over-exploited and salinated, to the extent that wells are going out of operation and water is becoming unpalatable and in certain areas even unusable for irrigation," the report said.

The problem "is of crisis dimensions and rapidly escalating," it said.

"By the end of the 1990s effectively they will be out of water," Mr. Oliver said in an interview.

Only about a quarter of the Gaza population is served by sewers. The rest use latrines that drain into cesspits, many of which frequently overflow.

"The abundant waste water and solid waste throughout the urban landscape contribute to the overall destruction of Gaza's water resource," the report said.

The Jordan River, sole source of surface water for Jordan, the West Bank and Israel, is used heavily by Israel to irrigate its fields. The river's flow is only one-quarter the level of 1950 and increasingly saline.

"Another highly controversial issue has been the removal of trees, in particular olive trees, by the occupying power," the report

said. It cited Palestinian sources as saying 78,000 olive trees have been uprooted in recent years by Israelis citing "security" concerns.

As a result of heavy stock grazing and unattended cultivation of slopes "the fragile topsoil of the West Bank is at serious risk."

Urban areas on the West Bank are served by sewers but most of them discharge untreated sewage into stream beds.

"The mission saw streams largely composed of raw sewage flowing in the dry season far away from towns." Often the waste is used to fertilize plots "in all likelihood producing contaminated vegetables."

All over the occupied territories toxic industrial waste is mixed with household garbage and dumped in landfills.

"Landfills pose major pollution hazards to soil and water," in particular in the West Bank where pollutants can travel easily and quickly into groundwater and public water supplies which are not tested for trace chemicals, the report said.

Life expectancy in the occupied territories is 65 — 11 years less than in Israel. Infant mortality is six times higher in the occupied territories than in Israel, the report said.

The report said the Gulf war and the five-year "intifada" or uprising against Israeli rule wrecked the already frail economy.

The war led to an end of remittances from Palestinians expelled from oil-rich Gulf countries and to aid from those countries because of Palestine Liberation Organisation support for Iraq.

The intifada has led to severe economic disruption in the occupied territories, the report said.

"We believe it is a fair guess that at present one-third of the population is unemployed," the authors of the report said.

Mr. Oliver said the current lockdown of Palestinian workers from their previous jobs in Israel "will only make a terrible situation worse."

UNDP and other attempts to help are slowed by the Israeli military bureaucracy which runs the occupied territories, Mr. Oliver said.

"It is an occupation. It is a jail... Military authorities are very unbending and hard to deal with," he said.



AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS: Six newly-appointed ambassadors to Jordan Monday presented their credentials to His Majesty King Hussein at Raghadan Palace. They were



## DFLP keeps door for polls open

(Continued from page 1)

substance," the DFLP chief said that he and President Saddam agreed that the sanctions could only be lifted when Iraq's neighbours open their borders to allow supplies to go in. Mr. Hawatmeh said his personal efforts towards Arab reconciliation are expected to take him to Yemen and Morocco.

On the Palestinian front, the Palestinian leader insisted that the DFLP, the third largest PLO faction, is against the use of violence to solve internal political conflicts.

"The DFLP and all other national democratic forces are against the use of violence," Mr. Hawatmeh said, responding to calls made by Islamist demonstrators in Wihdat refugee camp last Friday to "shed the blood" of the pro-peace PLO and its delegation.

Mr. Hawatmeh, however, accused the PLO's "conservative wing" (Mr. Arafat and Fateh) of taking unilateral decisions regarding Palestinian participation in the peace talks and demanded collective decision-making within the PLO.

His repeated calls for PLO insistence on improving the conditions of Palestinian representation to include Jerusalem and those from the diaspora has fallen on deaf ears. Mr. Hawatmeh, who joined forces with nine other Damascus-based opposition factions and the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in opposing the ongoing talks, continued to demand suspension of Palestinian participation of the talks "to open a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue to come up with a common and collective decision to restart the negotiations based on U.N. resolutions."

If the conditions of the negotiations are improved, the DFLP would become a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

He said the DFLP would be a full partner in the talks, he said.

Western diplomats based in Amman maintain that the DFLP and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) should not become part of the negotiating process. This message, PLO insiders have said, could have been conveyed to Mr. Arafat, who in turn had not been responsive to the groups' demands.

Mr. Hawatmeh did not rule out that his group, which enjoys substantial support in the occupied territories, would take part in legislative elections in the interim period of self-rule. "We don't place the card before the horse," he said.

He said the Israeli proposal presented to the Palestinian delegation in Washington last Thursday did not provide full legislative elections with its required authority that would enable the formation of an executive Palestinian body.

The proposal, which was studied and apparently rejected in its present form in Tunis Sunday, "provides only one body with limited jurisdiction for administrative rule under occupation, which is rejected by our people, because it does not exceed the current jurisdiction of the existing municipalities," Mr. Hawatmeh stressed.

Sceptical about the counterproposal drawn up by the PLO leadership and members of the negotiating team in Tunis — which was to be presented to the Israeli delegation Monday, the Jordanian-born Hawatmeh predicted that the Palestinian document would merely be an "amendment of the Israeli project."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."

"The Palestinian team would present its project for its own self-rule which would take into account some elements presented in the Israeli plan," Mr. Hawatmeh said. "Those who said they rejected the Israeli project are lying because they are merely amending the Israeli plan."



(clockwise) Renato Battì, head of the European Community (EC) delegation mission, Wang Chi Je of China, Gian Federico Pedotti of Switzerland, Mario Gardenas of Colombia, Jesus Cabrera Munoz



## Palestinian force faces dilemma

(Continued from page 1)

it, Fateh accused the Israeli intelligence, the Mossad, of issuing falsified statements in the name of the "Black Panthers" to stir internal conflict among the Palestinians.

A PLO official said his organisation suspects that 133 statements, which have been distributed since the intifada began in December 1987, have been forged either by the Israelis or fringe Palestinian groups opposed to the PLO leadership.

Fateh officials in Amman said that they have been in touch with "Black Panther" affiliated Fateh officials in the occupied territories to verify the originality of the "Black Panther" statements. A Senior PLO official told the Jordan Times this week that "those statements were not published in the occupied territories and no copy of any recent statement was available in the territories."

"This would indicate that either the Mossad or the groups in Damascus wrote these statements," said one official.

In statements received by the media since December 1992 the "Black Panther" group felt a band of pro-negotiations leaders in Tunis.

A statement on "Black Panther" dated April 25, 1993, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times this week, has accused the leadership in Tunis and its representatives in the West Bank of colluding with the Israeli occupation forces in a plot to liquidate them.

Some of the "Black Panthers" had received orders to disband while the whereabouts of others were being revealed to the Israelis through collaborators who had been tipped off by Fateh, the statement said.

PLO officials in Amman and Tunis described the statement as "fake."

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

"This statement was probably manufactured by the Mossad," the head of the PLO information bureau in Tunis, Jamil Hilal, said.

or another," according to an Amman-based Fateh official. "They numbered about 2,000 during the first year of the intifada when the Panthers and Hawks were first formed in 1988," he said.

"Today they are estimated to be no more than 200. The rest are in prison or have been killed by the Israelis."

"Those kids, who have had no chance to get an education for the last five years, do believe in armed struggle against the Israelis," said a senior member of the Palestinian Peoples' (formerly communist) Party, referring to the Black Panthers. "They believed that the Palestinian leadership was behind them. But now that the leadership has closed dialogue over armed struggle they feel lost."

Members of the PPP, which has been actively involved in the peace process despite its boycott of the ninth round, have substantiated claims that the Black Panthers and the Fateh Hawks have been increasingly "neglected" since the peace process began.

"The main thing about these groups is that they are made up of young men between the ages of 14 and 24 who wanted to back up the stone throwing intifada with some of the enemy's own medicine — guns," a PPP leader said.

"Once the PLO mainstream factions opted for negotiations, however, these groups began to get less funding for weapons," a PLO official added. "Less funding translated into less weapons and less self-defence for these young men," the official admitted. "The weapons were bought from the Israelis," he contended.

But most Fateh officials vehemently deny that support for the Black Panthers and the Fateh Hawks ever waned or that Fateh seeks to undermine them. "It is simply not so," said one veteran Fateh member who was deported from the West Bank for encouraging intifada related civil disobedience.

As if to verify that some of the charges made in the latest Black Panther statement are true, though, some Fateh members who are disenchanted with their group's leadership say that "Tunis" should have "explained" the change in tactics to its rank and file rather than just "give orders."

"There is no proper dialogue between the armed combatants in



Ledo of Mexico and Dato Paduka Mohammad Ben Haj Idris of Brunel. Attending the ceremonies were Chief of the Royal Court Khaled Al Karaki and Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber (Petra)



the field and the leadership," a member of Fateh said.

In early May six members of Fateh Hawks were killed in two separate incidents in the Gaza Strip by Israeli soldiers.

While wire service reports in the occupied Gaza Strip did not report that the victims were Hawks, Amman-based members of Fateh claim they were.

"These young men were Fateh Hawks," one of them said. "The alleged Black Panther appeal and the consequent killings of the Fateh Hawks in Gaza were no coincidence, say members of the Damascus-based opposition groups."

"This is the end of these boys, and Fateh is turning a blind eye to the situation because it does not want unruly militants among its ranks," said an official of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). "It's a form of disciplinary action," said the official without directly accusing Fateh of complicity in the "liquidation" of the militants.

None of the groups critical of the alleged Fateh policy towards the Fateh Hawks and Black Panthers has any suggestion on how Fateh could protect their groups from liquidation, however.

The Panther statement named overall head of the Palestinian peace negotiating team Faisal Husseini as well as negotiations advisor Sari Nusseibeh as active members of the plot to liquidate them.

The April 25 statement criticising the peace process was not the first issued in the group's name. In the third round of the peace process the group issued a statement condemning chief bilateral negotiator Haidar Abdul Shafi

for "selling out" his people. Particularly active in the north-west West Bank, around Jenin and Nablus, the Panthers are known to use safe houses and travel from one place to the other at night. The Fateh Hawks are said to operate mainly in the refugee camps in Gaza.

Residents in the Nablus area reported that as far back as 1991 the Black Panthers began taking the law into their own hands and unilaterally killed those they claimed to be Palestinian collaborators. A subsequent order from Tunis to end "collaborator killings" was ignored by the Panthers.

Some women allegedly involved in prostitution activities were also reportedly killed by the group in the centre of Nablus for "soiling the name of Palestinians," according to Nablus-based feminist Sahar Khalifeh.

Some Palestinian observers believe that if the PLO leadership did order the disbanding of the group it may have done so as a concession to the Israelis at the peace talks.

While most PLO members supportive of the peace talks deny and "doubt" that such orders were given by Tunis, critics say that the PLO was wrong to alienate Fateh affiliated militants as the peace process continued.

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

"The PLO gave these kids no protection, and they cannot disband because they are wanted by the Israelis," said one Amman-based critic. "But since the PLO is talking to the Israelis in Washington it can ask for a ceasefire on both sides as a solution to their problem," the critic continued. "This is more realistic and healthy than confrontation and bloodshed."

## Rebels reject Gouled's terms for negotiations

ASSA-GUEYLA, Djibouti (AFP) — Djibouti's Afar rebels refused Monday to negotiate inside the country, as newly reelected President Hassan Gouled Aptidon has demanded, and want talks under the aegis of a third party.

Mohammad Adoyta, vice-president of the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD) and military commander of the rebels, told AFP that the FRUD "will never negotiate inside Djibouti."

Speaking at the rebels' mountain headquarters in the north of the tiny Red Sea country, Mr. Adoyta said: "These talks must take place in a neutral country, France, Egypt or any African country."

"The intermediary could be a state or an organisation such as the OAU (Organisation of African Unity) or to United Nations," he added.

A first mediation bid by France

failed last November.

The FRUD refused to free all its prisoners of war, seen as a condition for the release of Afar political prisoners held by the authorities, including Ali Aref, a prime minister in French colonial times.